

# Old Times in Saco.

BY DANIEL E. OWEN.

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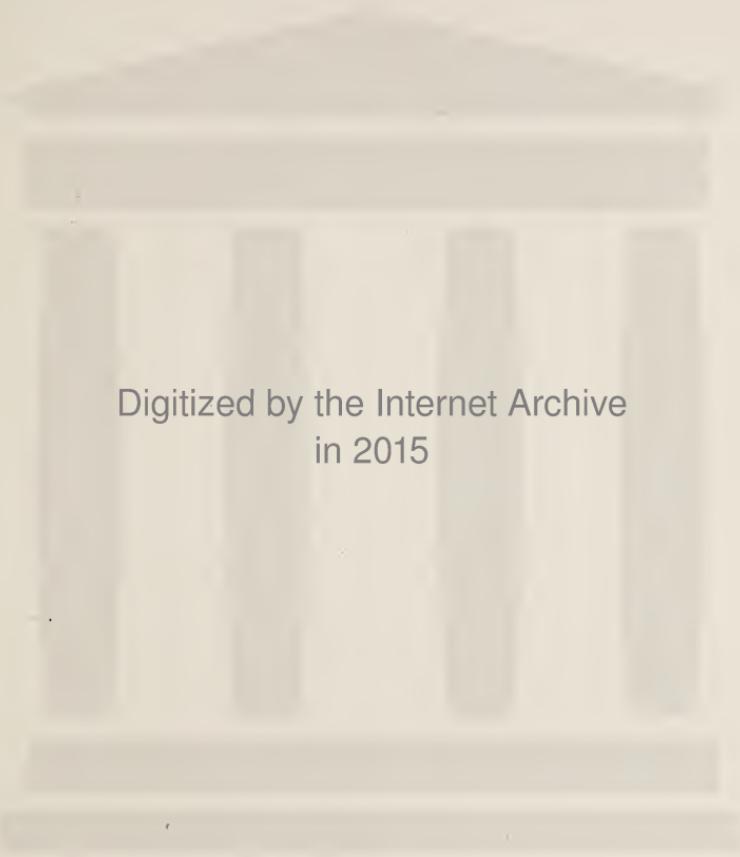


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MEDALLION OF THE SCAMMAN MUG.

# OLD TIMES IN SACO

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A BRIEF MONOGRAPH ON LOCAL EVENTS

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I have considered the days of old, the  
years of ancient times.

PS. LXXXVII, 5

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BY  
DANIEL E. OWEN

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SACO, MAINE,  
1891

With smoking axle hot with speed, with  
steeds of fire and steam,  
Wide-waked Today leaves Yesterday  
behind him like a dream.  
Still, from the hurrying train of Life,  
fly backward far and fast  
The milestones of the fathers, the land-  
marks of the past.

—Whittier.

---

The genuine history of a country can never be well understood without a complete and searching analysis of the component parts of the community, as well as the country. Genealogical inquiries and local topography, so far from being unworthy the attention of the philosophical inquirer, are amongst the best materials he can use; and the fortunes and changes of one family, or the events of one upland township, may explain the darkest and most dubious portions of the annals of a realm.—*Palgrave*.

1312021

## PREFACE.

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And what is writ, is writ—  
Would it were worthier.

—*Byron.*

*Saco, Maine,*  
*April 16, 1891.*





## ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS.\*

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\*For the use of most of the MAPS reproduced in this sketch the writer is indebted to Mr. Winfield S. Dennett. The plan, entitled SACO FERRY, 1817, is furnished by Mr. Enoch C. Jordan. The cuts of the SCAMMAN MUG and the MEDALLION OF THE SCAMMAN MUG are from drawings by Miss Winona Moody. The original of the LOTTERY TICKETS is owned by George A. Emery, Esq. The FIRST ENTRY IN CHURCH RECORDS is a reduced facsimile by photography. The SILHOUETTE OF COL. CUTTS is by the late Carl Hamilton.



#### ERRATA.

The reader is asked to make the following corrections :

Page 1. First line, for *southwestern* read *southeastern*.

Page 12. Last line in second paragraph, for *were fishers* read *mere fishers*.

Page 11. First foot-note, omit "Describes state of affairs in 1670."

Page 30. Last line, for *1678* read *1677*.

Page 38. Last line, for *1698* read *1689*.

Page 117. Second line, for *acre* read *care*.

In quotations the original punctuation and spelling are preserved, a fact which explains many apparent errors.



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# HISTORY OF SACO.

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## CHAPTER I.

### DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION.

THE history of Saco practically begins with the discovery of the Saco River in 1603. Some few adventurers had cruised along the coast of New England previous to that year, and since it is probable that fishermen visited the inlets of southwestern Maine before those waters were generally known to explorers, it is not unreasonable to suppose that white men set foot upon the shores of Saco Bay prior to the beginning of the xvii<sup>th</sup> century. There is, however, no satisfactory evidence in support of such a conjecture and history must be said to begin with the date above given.

On April 10, 1603, a few days after the death of Queen Elizabeth, Martin Pring\* set sail from Bristol, England, for the New World, taking with him Robert Salterne, a young man of theological tendencies†, who had been with Bartholomew Gosnold on his famous voyage of the year before. Pring had two vessels, neither of them so large as many modern yachts. The first and larger of the two was named the *Speedwell*. She was of fifty tons burden and carried a crew of thirty men and boys. The *Discoverer* registered only twenty-six tons and was manned by a company fourteen in number.

The expedition was sent out by merchants and city officers

\*Sometimes spelled Prinn or Prynne.

†He afterward took orders in the Church of England.

of Bristol, for purposes of trade with the Indians. Gosnold had returned from Cape Cod with a valuable cargo of sassafras and furs, obtained by barter with the ignorant savages, and the projectors of Pring's voyage hoped to reap a handsome profit by the same traffic. Some of the more sanguine ones may have believed that America could boast of better things than Indians and furs and had gay dreams perhaps, of *Norumbega*\* with its columns of crystal and of silver; but if such extravagant notions were entertained, they were concealed, and the little craft were sent out laden with trinkets calculated to strike the fancy of the natives.

The perilous voyage across the Atlantic was made in safety and Pring soon cast anchor in Penobscot Bay. No Indians being found there, the captain sailed to Saco Bay, whence he proceeded five miles up the Saco River. But the primeval forests were silent here, as elsewhere, and though traces of camp-fires were to be seen, not a native showed himself, so Pring sailed down the river over the bar—which was mentioned in the ship's log—and continued his quest toward the south.

At the time of Pring's visit, the Saco River presented a somewhat different aspect from that which it has today. Aside from the great trees which crowned the banks and hung over the water below, the feature of the landscape which would most attract the attention of a modern observer was *Cow Island*, which, in those days, was covered with a heavy growth. This

\*David Ingram, a sailor, having been set on shore at Tampico on the Gulf of Mexico in 1658 by Sir John Hawkins, wandered through the country until he came to a city called Norumbega, whence he departed for England. His stories of this city, which he said was three quarters of a mile long, were eagerly listened to by credulous adventurers, many of whom set out to find it. A city exactly corresponding to Ingram's description was never discovered. Still he adhered to what he had said, i. e.—that there was a place in Ameriea where monarchs were borne in ehairs and where the houses had pillars of crystal and of silver. Finally, the name was given to an Indian village on the Penobscot as the most likely location, and Bangor is said to stand upon the site of the ancient city. Recent investigations by Prof. E. N. Horsford go far to prove that Norumbega was a Norse colony on the Thames near Watertown, Mass.

now half-submerged area, boasting nothing but alder-bushes and eel grass, is not, in these days, a tract upon which speculation would prove profitable; yet it was once of considerable value. Thus a deed made March 15, 1658-9, reads:

"I Jon West of wells in the County of Yorke husbandman, haue in the behalfe of myselfe & heyres, barganed & sould a little Yland tearmed the Cow Yland, being & lijing in the riuier of Sacoe neare unto a Certen Tract of Land given & granted vnto mee by Mr Richard Vines, as will appeare by a Certen lease for & in consideration (with the aforesd Tract) of Tenn pounds, vnto Capt Bryan Pendleton of Portsmouth In Pischataqua River."

In view of the small price set on land at the period, this sale is interesting. Still better testimony to the importance of the island may be adduced. In 1678, it was exchanged for no less than two hundred acres of good land on the Saco River, while in 1697, the soldiers of Saco Fort were cutting fire-wood on it! Freshets have stripped the island of its original beauties, where the hand of man has left them undisturbed, until it is overflowed at every tide.

Two years after the discovery of the Saco River, De Monts and Champlain arrived at Wood Island, having 'run along the coast' from the Kennebec. In his entertaining account of the event Champlain wrote:

"I here visited an island beautifully clothed with a fine growth of forest trees, particularly of the oak and walnut, and overspread with vines that in their season produce excellent grapes. \* \* \* \* \* We named it the island of Bacchus. At high water we weighed anchor and ran up a small river barred at its mouth. There is but half a fathom of water on the bar at low tide and about nine, sometimes twelve feet,\* at high tide; within, there is a depth of four, five and six fathoms. As soon as we had cast anchor, a number of Indians appeared on the banks of the river and began to dance. \* \* \* \* \* This river is called by the natives †*Chouacoet*."

This description of the mouth of the river is quite accurate.

\*Average rise of tide is now about nine feet. This would make Champlain's second statement correct.

†Pronounced Swar-co. See Appendix A.

As for the grapes, they were still to be found on Wood Island forty years ago.

De Monts remained in the vicinity two days, while Champlain, who was the official geographer of the expedition, gathered material for a map. This map was afterward published and its comparatively rough lines bear a striking resemblance, all things considered, to more modern delineations of Saco Bay.\*

For ten years, following the visit of De Monts and Champlain, no recorded explorer entered the Saco River. During this period, the Plymouth Company had attempted a settlement at the Kennebec, but had failed in making it permanent† and the majority of the members of the corporation had become disengaged and withdrawn their aid from the enterprise of colonization. Sir Ferdinando Gorges, the prime mover in securing the Plymouth charter and throughout his life its most active supporter, was nearly the only one whose ardor was not quenched by disappointment, and it was almost wholly due to his perseverance that the project of New England settlement was not suffered to die out altogether. Sir Ferdinando was thoroughly in earnest, and though it grieved him to witness the defection of his associates, he was determined that the cause, to which he had already devoted much time and money, should still be pursued. Accordingly, he drew even more heavily upon his private fortune, ‘became an owner of a ship himself,’ and “under color of fishing and trade, got a master and company for her.”

Gorges’ first object was to prove that the climate of Maine was not too severe for the endurance of civilized men. There was no lack of stories to the contrary and the unfavorable impression which they created in England furnished the chief pretext why men did not care to emigrate to the New World. Gorges was not at all dismayed by the reports he had heard of the terribly inclement winters which buried New England in

\*Appendix B. †Appendix B.

snow and ice. He "had too much experience in the world to be frightened with such a blast, as knowing many great kingdoms and large territories more northerly seated, and by many degrees colder \* \* \* \* \* yet plentifully inhabited and divers of them stored with no better commodities from trade and commerce than those parts (New England) afforded, if like industry, art and labor be used."\*

To prove the soundness of his views on the mooted subject of climate, Gorges, in 1616, despatched his vessel with thirty-two men, 'hired at extreme rates,' under command of Captain Richard Vines, with instructions to pass the winter in some suitable harbor. His orders were obeyed, and in the fall of 1616, Vines went into winter quarters at the mouth of the Saco river. The event is perpetuated in the name *Winter Harbor*, a title to this day applied to the vicinity of Biddeford Pool.

Vines arrived at the time of a great epidemic among the Indians, "so that the country was in a manner left void of inhabitants." None of the Englishmen were sick, though they occasionally occupied the wigwams "with those people that died." "Not one of them," says Gorges, "ever felt their heads to ache while they stayed there." Excursions to the Indian villages were probably not very frequent after October, and the main portion of the cold season was spent on board the ship which was anchored near the land. Such, at all events, is one tradition. Another version of the event implies that Vines built a cabin on Leighton's Point; but there is no proof of his having done so.

In the spring of 1617, the expedition returned to England bearing a favorable report to Gorges. Vines was not only well satisfied with the climate but was also very much pleased with the character of the country and went so far as to recommend the tract at the mouth of the Saco to Sir Ferdinando as suitable for settlement. In subsequent years, this intelligent navigator

\*This quotation, like the others near in paragraphs near it, is from Gorge's "Briefe Narration."

made several voyages to the Maine coast, in the service of Gorges. Winter Harbor was, on these occasions, his principal resort and as will be seen presently, he finally made Saco his permanent abiding place.

From the year 1616 on, Saco Bay was frequented by fishermen and adventurers. One of the latter, Christopher Levett, has left an interesting account of the Saco River and his experience on and near it. The following is the substance of his story :\*

"About four leagues further east, [from Cape Porpoise], there is another harbor called Sawco (between this place and Cape Porpas I lost one of my men); before we could recover the harbor a great fog or mist took us that we could not see a hundred yards from us. I, perceiving the fog to come upon the sea, called for a compass and set the cape land, by which we knew how to steer our course, which was no sooner done but we lost sight of land, and my other boat, and the wind blew fresh against us, so that we were enforced to strike sail and betake us to our oars which we used with all the wit and strength we had but by no means could we recover the shore that night being imbayed and compassed round with breaches which roared in a most fearful manner on every side of us. \* \* \* \* \* At length I caused our killock (which was all the anchor we had) to be cast forth and one continually to hold his hand upon the rood or cable by which we knew whether our anchor held or no. \* \* \* \* \* Thus we spent the night; and the next morning with much ado we got into Sawco where I found my other boat. There I stayed five nights, the wind being contrary and the weather very unseasonable having much rain and snow and continual fogs.

"We built us our wigwam, or house, in one hour's space. It had no frame but was without form or fashion only a few poles set up together and covered with our boats' sails which kept forth but a little wind and less rain and snow. Our greatest comfort we had, next unto that which was spiritual, was this: we had fowl enough for killing, wood enough for felling, and good, fresh water enough for drinking. But our beds was the wet ground and our bedding our wet clothes. We had plenty of crane, goose, and ducks and

\*A Voyage into New England. Begun in 1623 and ended in 1624. Performed by Christopher Levett, His Majesty's Woodward of Somersetshire, and one of the Council of New England, 1628. Me. Hist. Soc. Col.

mallard, with other fowl, both boiled and roasted, but our spits and racks were many times in danger of burning before the meat was ready (being but wooden ones.)

"After I had stayed there three days, and no likelihood of a good wind to carry us further, I took with me six of my men and our arms and walked along the shore to discover as much by land as I could; after I had traveled about two English miles I met with a river which stayed me that I could go no further by land that day but returned to our place of habitation where we rested that night (having our lodging amended); for the day being dry I caused all my company to accompany me to a marsh ground where we gathered every man his burthen of long, dry grass which being spread in our wigwam or house, I praise God I rested as contentedly as ever I did in all my life. And then came into my mind an old merry saying, which I have heard of a beggar boy who said if ever he should attain to be a king, he would have a breast of mutton with a pudding in it and lodge every night up to the ears in dry straw; and thus I made myself and my company as merry as I could, with this and some other conceits, making this use of all, that it was much better than we deserved at God's hands, if he should deal with us according to our sins."

Two days later, Captain Levett put to sea. In his parting notice of the Saco he says:

"Sawco is about one league to the north-east of a cape land. And about one English mile from the main lieth six islands, which make an indifferent good harbor. And in the main there is a cove or gut which is about a cable's length in breadth and two cables' length long, there two good ships may ride, being well moored ahead and stern; and within the cove is a great marsh, where at a high water a hundred sail of ships may float and be free from all winds, but at low water must lie aground but being soft ooze they can take no hurt.\*

"In this place there is a world of fowl, much good timber, and a great quantity of clear ground and good, if it be not a little too sandy. There hath been more fish taken within two leagues of this place this year than in any other in the land.

"The river next to Saco eastwards, which I discovered by land and afterward brought my boat into,† is the strangest river that ever my eyes beheld. It flows at the least ten foot water upright, and yet

\*Biddeford Pool. †Scarboro' River.

the ebb runs so strong that the tide doth not stem it. At three-quarters flood my men were scarce able with four oars to row ahead. And more than that, at full sea I dipped my hand in the water quite without the mouth of the river, in the very main ocean, and it was as fresh as though it had been taken from the head of a spring.

"This river, so I am told by the savages, cometh from a great mountain called the Chrystal hill, being as they say, one hundred miles in the country, yet is it to be seen at the sea-side. \* \* \* \*\*

This naive narration brings the classic pages of Robinson Crusoe forcibly to mind. Its simple sentences form a pleasing introduction to local history and shed many gleams of light upon the manners of the first explorers. That the early navigators took to their oars in times of danger is a striking proof of the insignificant size of their 'good ships.' That they dared so much and accomplished such important results is surprising and their exploits ought not to be obscured by the grander achievements of later epochs.

\*The river referred to by the Indians is undoubtedly the Saco. The White Mountains might well gain the name of Crystal Hill.

## CHAPTER II.

### SETTLEMENT.

THE Plymouth Company, whose charter had been granted in 1606, was reincorporated, in 1620, under the name of the “Council, established at Plymouth, in the county of Devon, for the planting, ruling, ordering, and governing of New England in America.” Sir Ferdinando Gorges continued to be the leading spirit in pushing the scheme of colonization and was as energetic under the new order of things, as he had been under the old. The Council was more successful than the Company had been and Gorges was, at length, permitted to see some of his cherished plans materialize.

On February 1, 1630,\* the Plymouth Council issued two grants: One conveyed to John Oldham and Richard Vines, a tract of land, lying on the south side of the Saco River, four miles in breadth along the sea-wall and extending back into the country eight miles; the second patent assigned an equal area, on the opposite side of the river, to Thomas Lewis and Richard Bonython.†

These grants, the originals of which are in the archives of the Maine Historical Society, were made on condition that the men, in whose favor they were drawn up, should jointly transport fifty persons, to their respective tracts, “within the seven years next ensuing, to plant and inhabit there, to the advancement of the general Plantation of that country and the strength and

\*Feb. 12, 1629, old style. The year was formerly made to begin with March 25, i. e. previous to 1752.

†Elderly persons whose memory goes back to the time when stories of “old Bonython” were still told at the family fireside, pronounce the name Bonighton.

safety thereof amongst the natives or any other invaders." The grant to Lewis and Bonython describes the territory conveyed to them as "lying and being between the Cape or Bay, commonly called Cape Elizabeth, and the Cape or Bay, commonly called Cape Porpoise, containing, in breadth, from northeast to southwest along by the sea, four miles in a straight line, accounting seventeen hundred and three score yards, according to the standard of England, to every mile and eight English miles upon the main land on the North side of the river Swancaddock,\* after the same rate, from the sea through all the breadth aforesaid, together with all the Shores, Creeks, Bays, Harbors and Coasts along the Sea, within the limits and bounds aforesaid, with the woods and islands next adjoining to the said land not being already granted by the said Council unto any other person or persons: together, also, with all the Lands, Rivers, Mines, Minerals, of what kind or nature, Woods, Quarries, Marshes, Waters, Lakes, Fishings, Huntings, Hawkings, Fowlings, Commodities, Emoluments and Hereditaments whatsoever." All this was transferred to the patentees on condition of their "yielding and paying unto our Sovereign Lord, the King, one fifth part of Gold and Silver Ore, and another fifth part to the Council aforesaid and their successors, to be holden of the said Council and their successors by the rent hereafter in these presents reserved, yielding and paying therefor yearly forever unto the said Council, their successors or assigns, for every hundred acres of the said land in use, twelve pence of lawful money of England."

The reservation of the king's fifth of gold and silver ore suggests that his majesty still clung to the hope that the fabulous stories told of America's wealth were true. The clause by which the throne was to come in for a share of the mines is found in several early deeds. Thus, in 1643, when Alexander Rigby sold Hog Island in Casco Bay, together with a large tract of the main land, he provided that Cleeves and Tucker, the

\*See Appendix A.

buyers, should yield and pay “therefore yearly vnto the King’s Majesty his heyres & successors one fift part of all the gould & siluer oare to bee had or found in & vpon the sd Land”; and about the same time Richard Vines conveyed a tract “reserueing out of this present grant the one fift pte of all the oare of gold and siluer Due vnto his Ma<sup>tie</sup>. ”

There was a tradition that “three hills of rocks, were situate up Saco River, about forty miles from the sea, as full of silver as the mountains of Peru: fully persuaded of this, William Phillips, of Saco, purchased these mountains of Captain Sunday, a Sachem, in the year 1660; but he, or his posterity, were never able to possess the expected wealth from those hills.”\* In 1664, Phillips sold one “sixteenth part of a Certen Mine, being Accopted a Siluer Mine, lijing and being aboue Sacoe Falls, about fourty Mils more or lesse.” This was a portion of his purchase from Sunday.

Colonization began immediately upon the issue of the patents above described. Captain Vines took possession of his plantation June 25, 1630, and the patentees on the Saco side of the river almost precisely a year later—June 28, 1631. Just how many the original settlers were, or how rapidly the colony grew, it is not possible to ascertain with accuracy. The “booke of rates for the minister,” dated September, 1636, gives the most important testimony on the question and shows that in the year mentioned there were resident in the town: Richard Bonython, Richard Vines, Thomas Lewis, Henry Boade, John Wadlow, Thomas Williams, Robert Sankey, Theophilus Davis, George Frost, Clement Greenway, John Parker, John Smith, Samuel Andrews, William Seadlock, Robert Morgan, Henry Warwick, Richard Hitchcock, Thomas Page, Ambrose Berry, Henry Watts, and Richard Foxwell.† Of those named only

\*Sullivan, p. 75. Describes state of Affairs in 1670.

†Other inhabitants were Francis Robinson, Arthur Mackworth, Peyton Cooke, Richard Williams, John West, Thomas Wise, Stephen Batson, John Baylie, Thomas Cole, John Watten, James Cole, John Bonython, Morgan Howell, Arthur Browne, George Jewell and Peter Hogg.

Foxwell, Watts, and Warwick, aside from the patentees, Lewis and Bonython, are positively known to have lived on the eastern side of the river. The majority of the colonists took up their abode along the margin of the Pool and on Leighton's Point. The few that established themselves on the Saco patent probably lived near the mouth of the river or on the sea-wall. A movement inland must have been soon begun, however, for, in 1675, John Bonython occupied a house only a few rods east of the present Unitarian church.

With regard to the vocations of the early inhabitants of Saco, it is possible to form a tolerably clear conception, since a contemporaneous writer, the traveler Jocelyn, informs us that all the people in the province of Maine might 'be divided into magistrates, husbandmen or planters and fishermen.' 'Handicraftsmen,' this author adds, 'there were but few, the tumelor or cooper, smiths and carpenters being best welcome.' Shopkeepers there were none while of those classed as husbandmen, some were "planters and fishers both, others were fishers."\*

Of these ill-defined classes, that of the husbandmen or planters was most important. Its members were men of hardy mould; vigorous, energetic and well able to turn their hands to anything that gave promise of yielding a respectable livelihood. They nominally depended upon farming for support, but most of them, could man a fishing smack, when occasion offered, or drive a close bargain for furs with an Indian chief. They usually held farms of one hundred acres, of which they received leases from the planters on nominal rents. The conditions of the instruments by which the planters gained possession of their land seem now-a-days quite ridiculous. Thus when "Rich: Vines of the River of Saco, Gent: for divers good Causes & considerations him therunto mouing," did "giue, grant, infeffe & Confirme \* \* \* vnto Thomas Mills fisherman & James Gibbines planter" one hundred acres of land "neare winter Harbor in Saco aforsd," he made the transfer in

\*Jocelyn's Voyages.

consideration of the fact that he was to receive “one acknowledgement or rent charge of fflue shillings yearly to be pd at the feast of Saynt Michael, the arke angell, Two dayes worke of one man at Harvest, & one fatt gowse on the 25th day of Decem, yearly.”

Old Jocelyn, already quoted, remarks, with regard to the early settlers, that they had a custom of “sitting long at meals, sometimes four times a day.” “They feed generally,” he adds, upon as good flesh, beef, pork, mutton, fowl and fish as any in the world besides.” Captain Vines was apparently no exception to the rule and seems to have been as fond of high living as his neighbors. He was at least intent on securing a good Christmas dinner to be enjoyed by himself “his heyres & assignes” forever, since in 1638, four years previous to the date of the deed above given, he had named, as the rent of a farm “Containing by estimation one hundred acres,” and its “one mansion or dwelling house,” granted to John West, “two shillings of lawful English money in the feaste of Michalmasse, & alsoe one fatt Capone in the feast of the Natuity of our Sauior Christ.”

The farms of the husbandmen were, at first, devoted entirely to tillage, but cattle were soon introduced from England and, in 1670, live stock was abundant. So says Jocelyn, who, writing at the period, has the following notice of Saco and its vicinity :

“Towns there are not many in this province [Maine]—*Kittery* situated not far from Pascataway is the most populous. Next to that eastward is seated by a river near the sea *Gorgiana*,\* a major-ality and the metropolitan of the province. Further to the eastward is the town of *Wells*, Cape Porpus eastward of that, where there is a town of the same name, the houses scatteringly built, all these towns have store of salt and fresh marsh with arable land, and all well stocked with cattle. About eight or nine miles to the Eastward of *Cape Porpus* is *Winter harbor*, a noted place for fishers, here they have many stages. *Saco* adjoins to this, and both make one scatter-

\*Yorke.

ing town of large extent, well stored with cattle, arable land and marshes and a saw mill. Six miles to the eastward of *Saco* and 40 miles from Georgiana is seated the town of *black point*, consisting of about 50 dwelling houses and a magazine or *doganne* scatteringly built, they have store of neat and horses, of sheep near upon 700 800, much arable land and marsh, salt and fresh, and a corn mill. To the southward of the *point* (upon which are stages for fishermen) lie two small islands; beyond the point, North eastward runs the river of *Spurwink*.<sup>\*</sup>

Although most of the settlers held land and devoted themselves, partially at least, to its cultivation, it was not agriculture but fishing, upon which the people mainly depended for commerce and support. The waters teemed with fish and hundreds of quintals of cod, hake, haddock, and pollock were taken, annually along the coast and dried on rough stages built on the shore. Stage Island, at the mouth of the *Saco*, derives its title, in common with numerous namesakes from the fact that its treeless surface was utilized by fishermen for the erection of fish flakes.

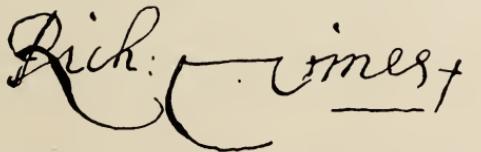
The fish were bartered with the merchants of Massachusetts and Virginia for corn and other stores from England, or exported to foreign countries. The trade thus developed became, in a short time, extensive. "I have seene," says Morton, "in one Harboure, next Richmond's Island, 15 sayle of ships at one time that have taken in them dried Codds for Spaine and the Straights."<sup>†</sup> The fish brought from \$2.00 to \$4.00 a quintal, and inasmuch as sufficient supplies to last one man a year cost but \$15.00, the first inhabitants of *Saco* and *Biddeford* must have enjoyed comfortable circumstances.

At this remote date, it is impossible to learn much of the mode or condition of life of any particular settler. Thomas Rogers to whom, in 1657, it was "granted & confirmed to have a lott of land & meddow fifteen akers about ye pond at ye rocks<sup>‡</sup> beyond goose fare next to Richard Coman: ye quantitie of one

\*John Jocelyn's Voyages, p. 200. †Morton's N. E. Canaan, Book ii.  
‡Googins' Rocks.

hundred and fiftie akers of medlow one ye<sup>e</sup> northeast side of Richard Comans marsh to him & his ares forever—by ye Selectmen of Saco," was a man of horticultural tastes and so improved the tract granted him that it was known as "Rogers' Garden." He planted an orchard, probably the first in Maine. Richard Williams, a 'clap-board cleaver,' entered into partnership with Peyton Cooke who advanced the sum of £30, 10s, 6d, sterling and received, thereafter, "two full men's shares" of all such clapboards as were made. When the firm was dissolved, by the death of Williams in 1635, it had on hand clapboards valued at £164, 8s, 4d, a large stock for those days.

Concerning Thomas Lewis but little is known. Richard Bonython appears to have been a sedate and dignified gentleman, respected by the community, but too retiring and unsympathetic to play a leading part in colonial affairs. John Oldham, one of the patentees of Biddeford, never, so far as known, set foot upon his property. John Winthrop tells, in his history,\* of one John Oldham who was a trader and who was treacherously killed by the Indians in 1636. The victim was, undoubtedly, the partner of Vines. As for Vines himself, history implies that it is scarcely possible to praise him too much.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rich: Vines". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with the "R" and "V" being particularly prominent.

When Saco was settled he was entrusted by Sir Ferdinando Gorges with the government of the district and the records show that the confidence thus placed in him was never abused. Evidence of his high character will come out more at length in the account of his administration, given in a succeeding chapter.

During the period under consideration, the inhabitants of East and West Saco, as the grants were sometimes distin-

\*Winthrop's Hist. N. E. I pp. 132 and 226.

guished, were not without neighbors. There were settlers at Piscataqua—the original territory now embracing the towns of Kittery, Eliot, South Berwick and Berwick—toward the west, and on the east, Richmond's Island was a great resort for trading. A certain Walter Bagnall was engaged in business there as early as 1631, but he cheated the unwary Indians and was summarily scalped by them in return. "This Bagnall," comments Winthrop,\* was sometime servant to one in the bay and these three years had dwelt alone in the said isle and had gotten about £400, most in goods. He was a wicked fellow and much wronged the Indians."

A patent including the present site of Portland and outlying towns, was issued to Robert Trelawney and Moses Goodyear, merchants of Plymouth, England, in 1631. Richmond's Island fell within the bounds of the grant and John Winter, who assumed possession of the Casco patent as agent for the proprietors, in 1632, took up his residence on the island and made it the scene of a brisk commerce which he sustained for fifteen years. Winter is said to have employed sixty men "upon the design of fishing" alone. He could well afford the large expenditures necessary to sustain his establishment, for the profits realized by the merchants of those times were immense. "If they do not gain cent. per cent. they cry out they are losers" declares Jocelyn. Winter was as exorbitant as any other. He was complained of, on one occasion, for clearing 200 per cent. on a small sale.

There were some settlers on the main land, opposite Richmond's Island, very early, among them being George Cleeves, a mischief-maker of whom more anon. The settlement at Black Point (Prout's Neck)—an unusually prosperous one—was founded by Thomas Cammock, nephew of the Earl of Warwick, who, in 1631, was granted 1500 acres between the Spurwink and Black Point rivers. The fort referred to by Jocelyn stood on the shore opposite Blue Point. Its outline was distinctly visible in 1849.

\*I p. 63.

The Indians troubled the settlers very little at first. The natives were disposed to deal honorably with the new comers and if the colonists had exercised more discretion in many cases than they actually used, the relation would doubtless have remained pleasant many years longer than it did. Champlain, in 1605, noted that the savages of Saco Bay were more domestic and civilized than the nomadic tribes of the east, and William Wood relates that "these Indians, in their owne trimme and naturall disposition," were "reported to be wise, lofty spirited, constant in friendship to one another, true in their promise and more industrious than many others."\*

The worst enemies, in the first days, were not the red men but the lawless whites, some of whom infested the coast as pirates. It was an expedition returning from a hunt after pirates that, in 1632, avenged Bagnall's death, by hanging, on Richmond's Island, Black William, an Indian chief whom they found there.

On the whole, the first period of Saco's history was unmarked by serious misfortune, and up to the outbreak of the Indian wars, in 1675, the infant settlement was left to grow and prosper as it would.

\*Wm. Wood's *New England's Prospect*, (1634).

## CHAPTER III.

### EARLY GOVERNMENT.

T is a political axiom that no body of men can be prosperous without some form of government. The colonists recognized this fact, and soon after their arrival at Saco River they entered into a compact, by which they agreed to obey the laws of England, as administered by officers chosen from their own number. This agreement was termed, in colonial parlance, a "Combination," and though unsuited, by the nature of the case, to be a permanent system of rule, it was adapted to the needs of the hour. No remnant of the original document exists and but one record concerning it is to be found. The last is, nevertheless, sufficient to prove the presence of such an instrument in the settlement, since the court mentions it by name and orders it to be given up by Thomas Lewis, who acted as its custodian. This action of the court bears date February 9, 1636-7. At that time, events had already transpired in England which were destined to alter the prevailing government and bring the colony into closer communion with its projector and the king.

In 1635, the Plymouth Council, never a vigorous and pushing institution, stranded, through the disaffection of its members. The few interested ones met, on February 3d, and divided the Council's territory in America, that portion of the lands known as Maine falling to its old patron, Gorges, who became, in consequence, Lord Proprietor of the province. Shortly after the division, the corporation surrendered its charter into the hands of the king, who forthwith took measures for establishing proper legal authority in New Somersetshire, as

Maine was then designated. In 1636, Captain William Gorges was sent over as deputy-governor, with commissions to Bonython, Vines, Lewis and others as councillors, and on March 25, 1636, the first legally-constituted court in Maine, of which there is any record, convened at the house of Richard Bonython in Saco.

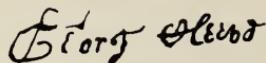
The court of early colonial days was a very different body in make-up, in purpose, and in method, from the modern legal tribunal. The people, having been summoned to the house—commonly a dwelling or an inn—where the session was to be held, by the roll of the drum, met in the presence of the councillors and were condemned to punishment, admonished, or advised, with despatch and impartial asperity. Misdemeanors were punished whenever and wherever detected. Thus when “Thomas Cloyse, coming as a testimony into Court, upon occasion did own in Court that he played at cards,” he was fined five shillings on the spot.

No offence was so insignificant as to be considered beneath the attention of the learned justices. On one occasion, Jere. Gutteridge was presented “for an Idle person and not providing for his family and giving reproachfull language to Mr. Nathan Fryer when He reproved him for his Idleness.”

The courts were legislative as well as judicatory and made the law in addition to enforcing it. It was from this circumstance that the legislature of Massachusetts was long termed the “General Court;” or, more imposingly, “The Great and General Court.”

The first court at Saco exercised all of the functions to which it was entitled. Four persons were fined five shillings each for intoxication and George Cleeves was ordered to pay five shillings for rash speeches. On March 29, in its capacity as a law-making body, the court ordered that “any man that doth sell strong liquor or wyne, shall suffer his neighbour, labourer or servant to continue drinking in the house, except men invited or laborers upon the working day, for one hower at dinner, or

stranger or lodger there, the said offence being seene by one justis of the peace within his limits, or constable, or proved by tew witnesses before a justis of the peace, such seller of strong liquor or wyne shall forfeit for every such offence tenn shillings."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Cleeves".

George Cleeves, above mentioned, was a man of rather unprincipled character. He went to England in 1636 and, it is probable, gave Gorges no very favorable report of affairs in the province, for when he returned, as he did the following year, he brought a request from Sir Ferdinando to the Massachusetts authorities that they "govern his province of New Somersetshire"; but Governor Winthrop and his colleagues were not disposed to interfere and the plottings of Cleeves, for once, availed nothing.

In 1639, Gorges' title as Lord Proprietor of New Somersetshire was confirmed by the king, who conferred such powers of government upon the "father of American colonization" as never before were granted by a monarch to a private individual. The name Maine\* occurs in the charter given to Gorges at this time. The province is described as extending from the Piscataqua to the Kennebec and up those rivers to their furthest heads, or until one hundred and twenty miles are completed, together with all the islands within five leagues of the shore. Gorges was to have unlimited control in the appointment of officers and with the assent of a majority of the free holders he was to make laws, raise troops, and build cities!

Invested with this glittering prerogative, Gorges worked out a grand scheme for the colonization and government of the province. York was to be incorporated as a city, under the name of Gorgeana, and entrusted with a charter which called

\*See Appendix A.

for all the officers of a metropolis, from Lord Mayor down.\* Extravagant plans were also laid for the improvement of the territory.

On September 2, 1639, soon after obtaining the royal authority, Gorges appointed a commission, consisting of Bonython, Vines and others, for the administration of law in Maine. One of the number, Sir Thomas Jocelyn, declined to act, and in March, 1640, a new commission was framed, identical with the first, except that the name of Thomas Gorges was substituted for that of Jocelyn.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tho: Gorges".

Thomas Gorges, "a young gentleman of the inns of court, a kinsman of Sir Ferdinand Gorge,"† arrived at Boston, from England, in the summer of 1640. Meantime, the first commission had held a general court in Saco, on the 25th of June. A second session was held in September, when "the Worshipful Thomas Gorges" was present.

At the June sitting, there were eighteen entries of civil actions and nine complaints. One man was fined five shillings for swearing two oaths; two others had profaned the Sabbath by "carrying of bords," and were fined twenty shillings. At the September term, an order was passed that the general court should convene in Saco every year on the 25th of June. It was also ordered by this court "that in regard of the great Damage the Inhabitants of this Province do sustain thro' the loss of their cattle by the devouring Wolves, that from henceforth if any one shall kill any wolf between Paseattqua and Kennebunk, the partie so killing them shall have *Twelve pence* for

\*The settlement was actually incorporated and remained a city for some years, about two-thirds of the inhabitants holding office.

†Winthrop I p. 11. Concerning Thomas Gorges he adds: "He was sober and well disposed; he staid a few days in Boston, and was very careful to take advice of our magistrates how to manage his affairs."

every wolf so killed from every Family between Kennebunk and Sagadahock, for every wolf so kilted within those limits."

The early records of the Province of Maine, which recount the doings of Gorges and his associates, were made upon unbound pamphlets, or books, of one or more quires of paper, stitched together, and generally without any covering to secure them from injury. They consist of a mixture of legislative and judicial orders; decisions of a criminal and civil nature; together with inventories of estates, wills, accounts of administrators and similar entries made by the clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, who was usually the recorder of deeds.\* The first book contains the names of the commission:

Sir Ferdinando Gorges by Commission appoints

	SIR THOMAS JOSSELIN, Knight	Councillors.
	RICHARD VYNES, Steward General	
Sepr 2d 1639	FRANCIS CHAMPERNOON	
	HENRY JOSSELIN } Esq'rs.	
	RICHARD BONIGHTON }	
	WILLM HOOKE } Gent.	
	EDWARD GODFREY }	
	THOMAS GORGES	
	RICHARD VINES, Steward General	
March 10 1639-40	HENRY JOSSELIN	Councillors.
	FRANCIS CHAMPERNOON	
	RICHARD BONITHON }	
	WILLIAM HOOK }	
	EDWARD GODFREY, Esq'rs,	
	THOMAS GORGES appointed Secretary.	

It will be seen from this entry that, next to Thomas Gorges, Richard Vines was the most prominent officeholder in the community. He represented Sir Ferdinando Gorges in a special way, being that gentleman's agent in transfers of land and responsible to him, in large measure, for the everyday supervision of the province. Thomas Gorges was the figure-head of the government; to him the people must listen in matters of import: but the real power was Vines who had been intimately

†Condensed from MSS. by Hon. David Sewall. Me. Hist. Col.

associated with Sir Ferdinando in the latter's schemes for colonization, and who, from an accurate understanding of the proprietor's methods and wishes, bore his authority and sanction in more than usual degree. Vines was an honest man and managed the affairs of his master in a fashion that is open to little criticism. The inhabitants of Saco might well have rested content under his mild oversight, and they probably would have done so for many years, had not the designs of unscrupulous men unseated the established order and involved the district in turmoil.

In 1630, the same year in which the grants of Saco and Biddeford were made, the Plymouth Council issued the so-called "Plough Patent." The boundaries of this patent were, Cape Elizabeth on the east and Cape Porpoise on the west. It thus included the districts already granted on Saco River. Such mistakes, arising from imperfect knowledge of the geography of the country, were common in those days, and were a source of no small trouble to the colonies, not only in Maine, but in many other states, as well.

The holders of the Plough patent came over from England in the ship *Plough*, whence the name of the grant; but the place did not please them, so they sailed away and did not molest the settlers at the mouth of the Saco River. The patent was practically forfeited, by not being taken up, and was apparently forgotten until it became an instrument of mischief in the hands of the adroit George Cleeves.

Not long after the establishment of the courts under Thomas Gorges, Cleeves went to England a second time and induced Alexander Rigby, "a lawyer and a Parliament man," to buy the abandoned Plough patent. The bargain was made April 7, 1643, and in January of the following year Cleeves landed in Boston, armed with a commission from Rigby to administer the affairs of *Lygonia*, as the region covered by the grant had been named. Cleeves had previously made a slanderous attack upon the character of Captain Vines, but had failed to substantiate

his accusations, and he knew that the claim he was about to assert would not be recognized. Accordingly, before proceeding to Maine, he called upon the authorities of Massachusetts to assist him in sustaining the majesty of the law. The officers of the Bay Colony discreetly withheld their aid and Cleeves was left to his own devices. The newly-constituted "Deputy-President of Lygonia" was not a man to be daunted by lack of support; so he took his departure for the scene of his assumed jurisdiction, and began a crusade against the officers of Sir Ferdinando Gorges and all others who adhered to the original proprietor's cause.

The brunt of the battle was felt by Captain Vines, who, as the representative and avowed friend of Gorges, incurred the cordial dislike of Cleeves. The contest between the rivals was, at first, an equal one. Cleeves sent out commissions from Casco and summoned a court at that place, in the name of the "Lord Proprietor and President of the Province of Lygonia." To offset this move, the councillors of Maine called a court at Saco and uttered a protest against such revolutionary proceedings. The arguments against the new government, there brought forward, are well expressed in the following letter, by Vines to John Winthrop, which illustrates also the character of Cleeves :

*To the right worshipfull his much honored freind John Winthorpe, Esqr. governor of the Massachusetts Colony, these, Boston :*

RIGHT WORSHIPFULL,—I am forced to complayne vnto you of diverse insufferable wrongs don vnto Sir fferdinando Gorges, his Commissioners and Province, by Mr. Cleiues and his agent, Mr. Tucker, who report that you protect and countenance there exorbitant practiees, which I canot beleave, for I never yet knew you giue the least encouragement to any sinister practice. Mr. Cleiues having perswaded Mr. Rigby, (a worthy gent. by report) to buy the Plough Patent which I esteeme no better than a broken tytle, by Mr. Rigby his authority, (and as he sayes by your approbacon) he hath nominated Commissioners, a Coronell generall, Provost marshall and other officers, extending his government from Sackadephock to Cape Porpus, being about 13 leagues in length, haveing like wise appoynted a Court to be kept in Cascoe bay the 25th of March next, and hath sent his agent Tucker with a paper, perswading all such as he findes any way

inclining to innovation, to set their hands to it, for the better approving of what they haue begun, and allsoe to intreate your Worship and the rest of your magistrates to defend them from Ffrench Indians, and other enemyes, which wee construe to be Sir Fferd: Gorges Commissioners. Neither hath Cleues (as he ought) presented any his authority at our last generall Court; but, 2 dayes before our Court tooke a vioage into the bay and all the way as he went from Pascataquack to Boston, he reported he was goeing for ayde against mee, for that I had threatened him and his authority, to beate him out of this Province. By this false report and many other the like, I am held an enemy to justice and piety. \* \* \* \* \* I am troubled at these seditious proceedings; and much more at his most notorius scandals of Sir fferdinando Gorges, a man for his age and in integrity worthy of much honor; him he brands with the foule name of traytor by circumstance, in reporting that he hath counterfeited the King's broade Seale (if he haue any patent for the Province of Mayne) ffor, sayes he, I haue serched all the Courtes of Record, and can finde noe such grant. How could he haue giuen that graue Knight a deeper wound in his reputacion, the which I know is more deare to him than all the wealth in America: he likewise maynetaynes his false report of his death, flight into Wales, not with standing a letter dated the 25th of 9ber last, from a merchant in London, of very good credit, and brought in Mr. Payne his ship, which letter imports Sir fferd: Gorges his good health with the restauracion of his possessions agayne. \* \* \* \* \* Now for the Patent that Mr. Rigby hath bought, it is not from our King's majestie, as Cleues reports, but from the President and Counsell of New England, as myne and others are, wherein Mr. Rigby hath from there Llordships *jura regalia*, but his majestie takes that away by his royal grant to Sir fferd: Gorges, bearing date thir [teen] th of Aprill, in the fifteenth yeare of his highnes raigne. Now I coueue Mr. Rigby his agent is but to recover soe much land as the grant specifies, and to relinquish there *Jura regalia*, as you may perceiue in the last clawse of our grant here with sent you. \* \* \* \* Yet I did ever, and doe intend, whensoever Mr. Rigby shall send over people, to lett them settle peaceably, to ayde and assist them to the best of my power, without questioning of *meum et tuum*; for this I know, if Sir Fferdinando Gorges and Mr. Rigby meeet, all matters wil be quietly ended, if there be no incendiaries here. \* \* \*

Your faythfull freind and servant,

RICH: VINES.

Saco, the 9th of January, 1643.

Having tried other means to gain his point in vain, Cleeves finally proposed to refer the matter to Massachusetts and sent Tucker to Saco to make known his determination. But the council seized Tucker, as a disturber of the peace, and only released him when he had given bonds for his appearance at a subsequent term of court. Finally, an agreement was arrived at, and Massachusetts consented to arbitrate the dispute; but did nothing. This was in 1646. That same year the English Commission for Foreign Plantations, influenced by Rigby, whose position in Parliament gave him a great advantage, decided in his favor.

The adherents to Gorges' claim might still have made some resistance, had it not been for a series of untoward events which had deprived them of their main support, both at home and abroad.

The civil war in England broke out in 1642, and Gorges took up arms in behalf of the king who had done so much for him. He was in Prince Rupert's army at the siege of Bristol and when that city was retaken by the Parliamentary forces, in 1645, he was plundered and imprisoned. Under these circumstances, he was unable to oversee his distant province and his enemies were free to work confusion. Moreover, Captain Vines, embarrassed in pecuniary affairs and disgusted with the state of the province, sold his patent, in 1645, to Dr. Child and resigning his office of Deputy-Governour, to which he had been chosen by the general court, removed to Barbadoes, W. I.

Left by themselves to contest the measures of a government which was sustained by the party in power in England, and which had gained comparatively undisputed possession of the field, the remaining friends of Gorges thought discretion the better part of valor and surrendered themselves into the hands of the Lygonian officers. The last court under the old warrant was held at Wells in 1646.

The triumph of the Lygonian faction was destined to be short lived. Alexander Rigby died in 1650, and his son took little or

no interest in the patent. Meanwhile, Massachusetts had arrived at the conclusion that Maine belonged to her. During his lifetime, Sir Ferdinando Gorges was a constant occasion of anxiety to the Puritan colonists, because of his claim to certain tracts of land presumably covered by their patent. Gorges died in 1647, and the Massachusetts colony took courage, forthwith, and essayed to establish her northern boundary. The northern limit of the Bay Colony, as stated in its charter, was three miles north of the head of the Merrimac. Commissioners, appointed to look into the question of territory, decided that this point lay three miles north of an outlet of Lake Winnepisegoe. A line having been run from this spot to the sea was found to strike Clapboard Island, in Casco Bay. All settlements south of this line were, therefore, included within the confines of Massachusetts.

Negotiations were speedily opened with the "gentlemen of the eastward" and a commission was appointed to receive the submission of the inhabitants. Following is a portion of the report of the commission addressed to the General Court of Massachusetts :

"At a court held at Wells by the above mentioned commission the 5th of July, 1653.

The inhabitants of Saco being by name, particularly called, made their appearance according to their summons and those whose names are here under written acknowledged themselves subject to the government of the Massachusetts, as witness their hands this 5th of July, 1653 :

Thomas Williams.	Thomas Rogers.
William Stradlock.	Philip Hinckfon.
Christopher Hobbs.	Peter Hill.
Thomas Redding.	Robert Booth.
Juo. West.	Richard Cowman.
Thomas Hale.	Ralph Tristream.
Richard Hitchcock.	George Barlow.
James Gibbins.	Henry Waddock.

The commissioners judged it meete to grant to them to be freemen and accordingly gave them the freeman's oath which they took in open court. And whereas the inhabitants of Saco have acknowledged themselves subject to the government of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, as by their subscriptions may appear, we the commissioners of the general court of the Massachusetts for the settling of government amongst them and the rest within the bounds of their charter northerly to the full and just extent of their line, have thought meete, and do actually grant.

1. That Saco shall be a township by itself and allways shall be a part of Yorkshire and shall enjoy protection, equal acts of favour and justice with the rest of the people inhabiting on the south side of the river of Piscataqua, or any other within the limits of our jurisdiction, and enjoy the priviledges of a towne as others of the jurisdiction have and do enjoy, with all other liberties and priviledges to other inhabitants in our jurisdiction.

2. That every inhabitant shall have and enjoy all their just proprieties, titles and interest, in the houses and lands which they doe possess whether by grant of the town possession or of the former general court.

3. That all the present inhabitants of Saco shall be freemen of the county and having taken the oath of freemen shall have liberty to give their votes for the election of the governor, assistants and other general officers of the country.

4. That the said town shall have three men approved by the county court from year to year, to end small causes as the other townships in the jurisdiction have where no magistrate is according to law; and for the present year Mr. Thomas Williams, Robert Booth, and John West, are appointed and authorized to end all small causes under forty shillings according to law. \* \* \* \* \* It is further hereby ordered and granted that for this present year Mr. Thomas Williams, Robert Booth, and Jno. West, shall be the selectmen to order

the prudential affairs of the town of Saco for this year, and they took their respective oaths as commissioners or associates used to do. \* \* \* \* \* Ralph Trentrum was appointed constable there and took his oath. William Stradlock was appointed clerk of the writs there and also grand jury man for this year and took his oath.

Richard Hitchcock was appointed and authorized to exercise the soldiery at Saco."

The submission of the inhabitants was not, by any means, unanimous. Many rebelled against what they considered the usurpation of Massachusetts. Among those who opposed the new order of things was John Bonython, son of the patentee. He was especially bitter in his protest and added vituperation to candid argument. His caustic denunciations smote harshly upon the ears of the claimants and, in 1658, he was pronounced "a rebel or common enemy," and a reward of twenty pounds was offered for his capture, dead or alive. This thunderous manifesto seems to have had the desired effect upon the obdurate John, for he shortly afterward took the oath of allegiance and resumed the position of a citizen in good standing.

Bonython's resistance seems to have been of a particularly wild and reckless description. He apparently had no just cause of complaint and acted simply from the promptings of an unruly nature. The whole history of the man is not such as impresses us with much respect for his stubbornness. He had always led a lawless life; had been once outlawed already by the government of Maine (1645) and had acquired, by his bravado, the soubriquet of "Sagamore of Saco." He died about 1684, and some wag is said to have written on his tombstone :

"Here lies Bonython, the Sagamore of Saco;  
He lived a rogue, and died a knave, and went to Hobomocko."

As late as 1830, the ruined cellar of the outlaw's house,\* which stood on the eastern side of the river about half a mile

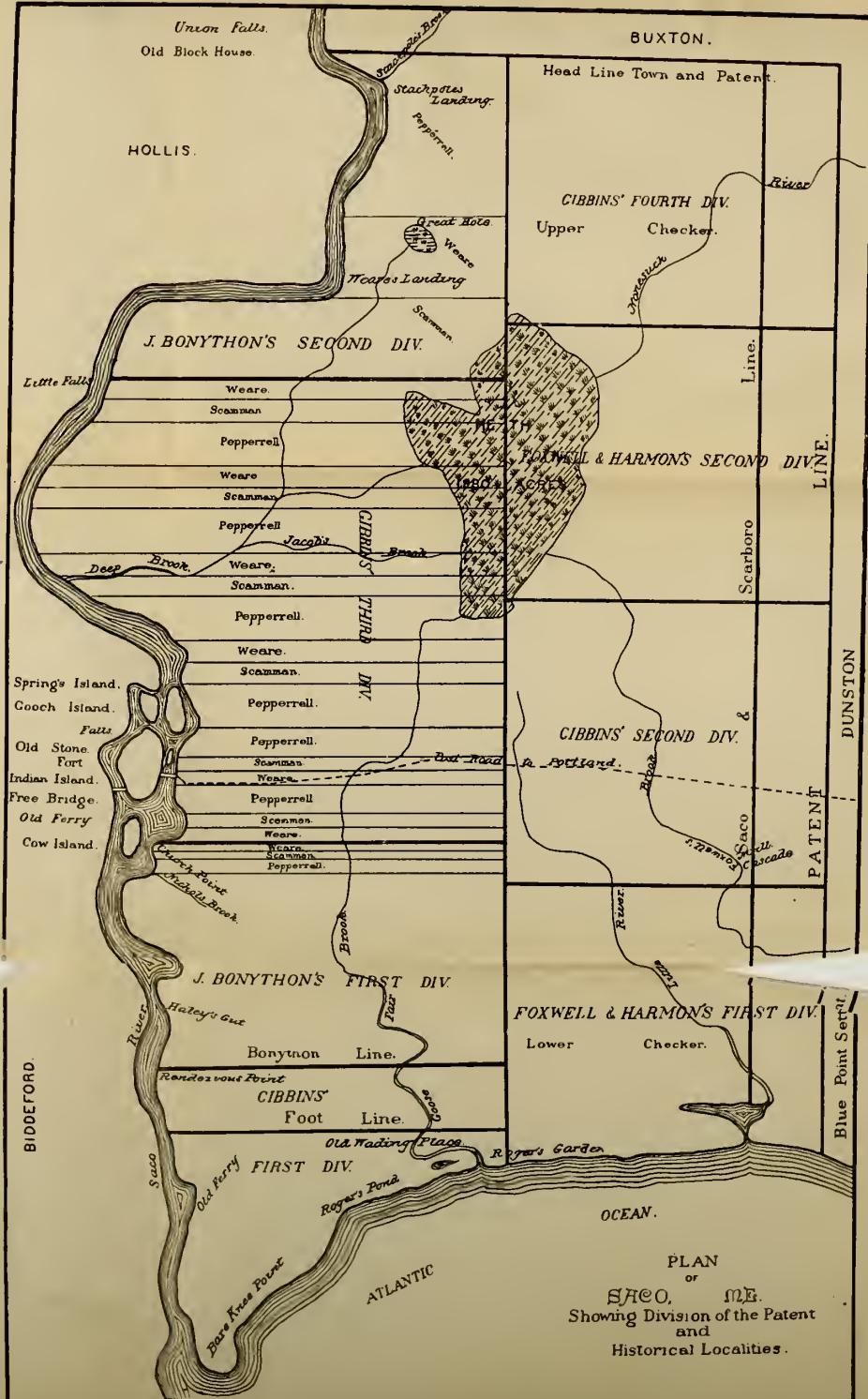
\*Burned by Indians in 1675.

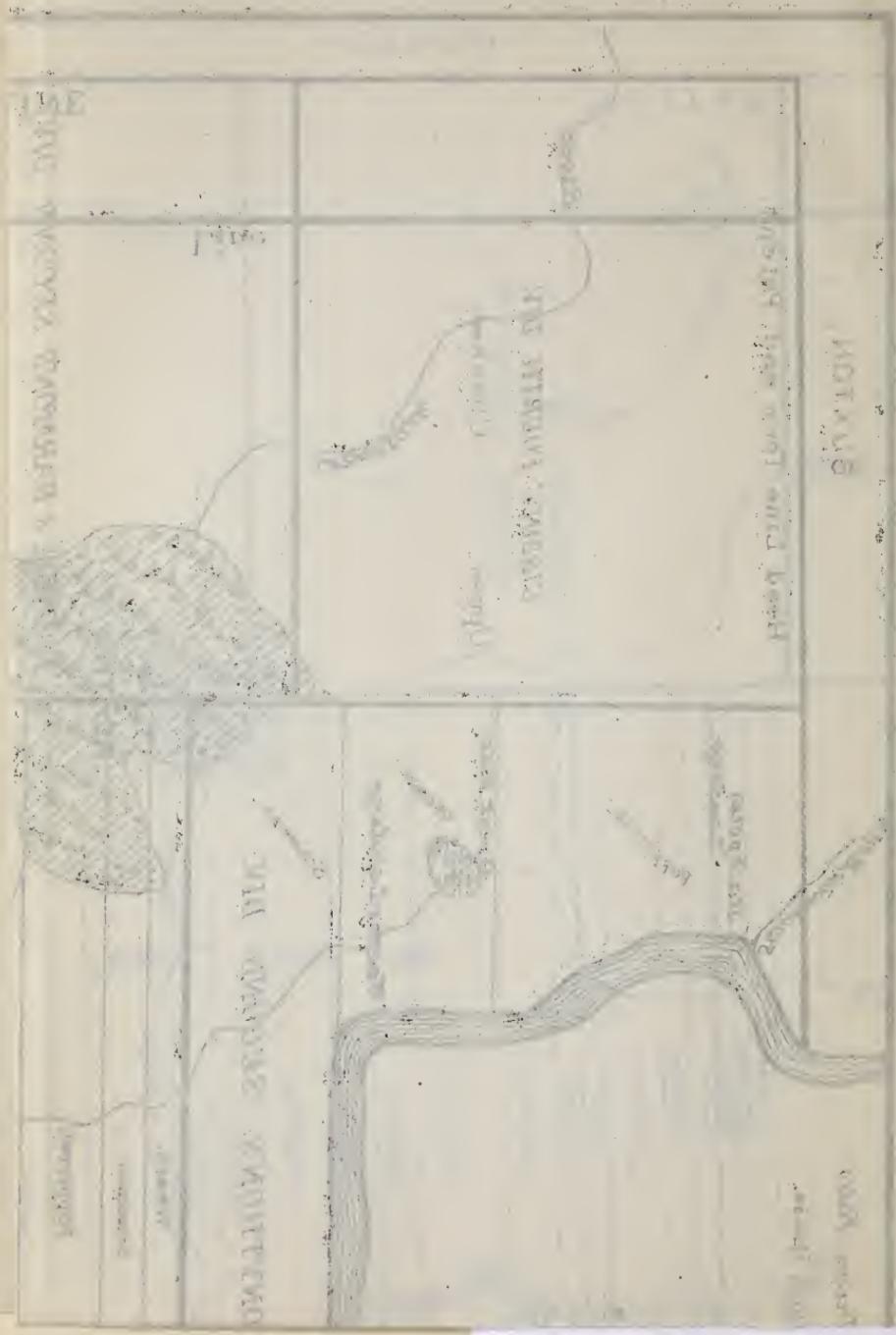
below the falls and quarter of a mile back from the water, might still be seen. It is related that shortly before his death, as if to atone for past misdeeds, he gave the town twenty acres of upland for the minister.

Though Bonython had little of cool reason on his side there were others who had, and there were some who strenuously objected to the encroachments of Massachusetts, as destined to alter the institutions of the province, and especially to suppress the religious freedom, to which the people of Maine were accustomed. But the majority favored the change, and all were eventually pleased with it. Massachusetts modified her laws on voting—which had made church membership one of the qualifications—so that the liberals of the newly acquired territory might have a voice in the government and, for a time, all went well. There is extant a petition to Oliver Cromwell, dated 1656, and signed by seventy-one persons of Saco, Cape Porpoise, Wells, York and Kittery, asking that they may be continued under the rule of Massachusetts.

The relations of the province to Massachusetts continued amicable until the accession of Charles II. Soon after that event, affairs were agitated by a fresh contention. Young Ferdinando Gorges appeared and demanded his rights as heir to the famous Sir Ferdinando. His claim was sustained and the king took the province under his immediate protection. Royal commissioners assumed possession in 1665 and in July 1666, a court, consisting of Henry Jocelyn, Francis Hooke, Edw. Rishworth and Sam'l Wheelwright, was held by their authority in Saco.

The revival of the Church of England was encouraged and Maine once more resumed her station as an independent colony. The change was not, however, permanent. A strong party still favored Massachusetts and an attempt was made to return to the former system of government. The king was opposed to any step which should reunite the colonies; but his wishes were disregarded and, finally, in 1678, as the best





solution of the problem, Gorges sold Maine to Massachusetts for £1250. "Through plots and counter-plots," Maine at length became an integral part of Massachusetts and the two colonies remained, henceforth, under the same government for nearly a century and a half.

During the mutations here related, the boundaries of the towns in Maine belonging to Massachusetts were fixed by act of the General Court. The limits of Saco were presumably identical with the boundaries of the Lewis and Bonython patent; but the patent line was not run until 1681, and when the Massachusetts officers came to establish the extent of the township, in 1659, finding no trace of previous surveys, they decided upon the northern boundary, either in accordance with tradition, or to suit their own purposes. The result was, that Saco was robbed of about 3000 acres of land, which were transferred to Scarborough. The report of the committee states that,

2ly The deuideing bounds betweene Sacoe, & Scarborrow, shall bee y<sup>t</sup> River Called commanly the little River, next vnto Scarborrow, & from the Mouth of the sd river, shall run upon a due North west Lyne into the Countrey, vnto the extent of eight Miles.

A strip of some 200 rods in width, rightfully belonging to Saco, thus fell to Scarboro'. The mistake was rectified by the Legislature of Maine which, in 1840, restored the 'patent strip,' so-called, to Saco. The town line, on that side, is not now straight, for reasons that cannot here be discussed.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE INDIANS—KING PHILIP'S WAR.

WHEN Englishmen came to the Province of Maine, they found it a primeval forest, whose giant trees, with their strong arms interlocked, stood defiantly before the encroachments of civilization.

Along the rivers sported the fur-bearing animals, the mink, the otter and beaver; inland prowled the wolf, the bear and wild-cat; and through the northern forests roamed fleet-footed deer and the giant moose.

Shad, alewife and salmon glided through the waters of the rivers, and the lakes and rivulets were alive with pickerel and trout, and the forests were jubilant with birds.

Here dwelt a rude race of beings, to whom the embellishments of civilization were unknown; they were untamed and untamable, and roamed through these forests as wild and free as the animals they pursued, or the birds which sang over their heads. Their habitations were built of bark or bending boughs, and their garments were the skins of beasts. They had no woven fabrics and knew not the use of metals. Their implements for domestic use and warfare were rudely wrought from wood, or bone, or stone. Axes, arrow-heads and spear points were stone; knives were stone or bone; their fish hooks were bone and their lines of twisted sinews, or raw hide. Their boats, called canoes, were built of ribs of bent ash wood, covered with birch bark, carefully sewed with sinews. Their agricultural arts were of the simplest and rudest kind; for they had no metal implements with which to break or till the soil.

Hunting, fishing and war were their chief employments, and

they followed the migrations of game and kindled their wigwam fires where it was most abundant. In winter, many dwelt near the seashore, and feasted upon the shell fish which yielded them abundant sustenance. Vast shell heaps, found at points along the coast, are proofs of this custom.

They had no written literature, and their history is gathered from oral tradition and the accounts given by the early explorers upon this coast.

The tribes dwelling east of the Merrimac River, were, in their native language, called Abnakis, meaning *Easternmen*. These were divided into clans or tribes, each dwelling within distinct territorial limits, and each having its own government, consisting of a chief and council. Those dwelling along the Penobscot River were the Penobscots, the descendants of whom now dwell on Old Town Island, in the Penobscot River, about twelve miles above Bangor. Those on the Kennebec River were called the Kenebas; those on the Androscoggin were the Anasaguntacooks; and on the Saco River dwelt the Sokokis, having their principal settlements at Peckwogett, in the great bend of the river, where is now the town of Fryeburg. Factory Island, as it is now called, Bonython's or Cutts' Island as it was formerly called, was, by the early English settlers, called Indian Island, from the fact that it was an Indian settlement and rendezvous for the Sokokis. This Island was originally covered with a heavy, hard-wood forest, and with the foaming waters of the cataract on each side, and the placid bay below it, it is not surprising that these nature-loving children of the forest selected this picturesque point for their habitations.

Besides these general divisions of the tribes, there were smaller tribes, or families, each living within its own boundaries. Wars among these tribes generally arose from the encroachments of one tribe upon the hunting grounds of another. They had no disciplined armies and none of the implements of war known to civilization. They fought with bows of horn-

beam, or hemlock, and arrows of ash. They had, also, battle axes, or tomahawks, of stone; war clubs and spears. Their warfare was strategic. They stole stealthily upon their enemies, often waiting and watching many days in silent ambush for a favorable moment to spring upon their unsuspecting victims. When going to war, they covered themselves with war paint, and rushed into the fray with an appalling war-whoop; often, they surrounded their enemies, and, by attacking all points at once, caused an overwhelming consternation.

For nearly fifty years the settlers lived in peace with the Indian tribes that dwelt on the Saco River. There were occasional private feuds, but they were settled without bloodshed. During these years of peace a barter trade was carried on between the Indians and the settlers, to the advantage of both. The Indians gladly exchanged furs for woven fabrics and metal implements, but the settlers, as far as possible, withheld from them fire arms and a knowledge of their use. Laws were made concerning the sale of muskets to Indians, and even the repairing them was a violation of law. A law of 1644 is as follows: "If any man shall repaire or amend any guns or armes for the Indians he shall forfeite XX for one." In 1676, the law for selling guns to Indians was made more stringent: "Whosoever shall be found to sell, barter or give, directly or indirectly, any gun or guns, or ammunition of any kind, to any Indian or Indians: and the same legally proved against them: every such person or persons shall be put to death." Notwithstanding these precautions by the English, the Indians obtained arms and ammunition and at the commencement of the Indian Wars there were many well skilled in their use. The French, who were the inhabitants of Canada and the Province of Maine east of the Penobscot, were always the friends and allies of the Indians, and from them arms could be readily obtained.

The English settlers at the Saco River, though living and trading peaceably with the Indians, by way of precaution erected strong houses, and some were secured by heavy timber

walls. It was well that this care was used, for, when the Indian war commenced, it burst in sudden fury, and the unguarded settlements suffered severely.

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A circumstance which occurred on Saco River is said to have especially stirred up the tribes to attack the settlers. In the summer of 1675, an English vessel was anchored in the river. The sailors, seeing an Indian woman with her child crossing in a canoe, barbarously upset it, to see if Indian children could swim by instinct. The child sank, and the terrified mother, diving, brought it to the shore, but it soon died. This woman was the wife, and this child the first-born son, of Squando, a noted chief of the Sakoki tribe. Squando and his counsellors considered this an unpardonable insult, and they determined to be revenged. The western Indians, under Philip of Mount Hope, had conceived the plan of exterminating all white settlers on the coast, and after this insult the eastern Indians decided to join them, and the settlement at Saco Falls was selected as the spot where the first blow was to fall.

In September, 1675, John Bonython received a hint from an Indian, whom he had once befriended, that several strange Indians were in the neighborhood, and that there was danger of an attack. He immediately spread the alarm; all left their habitations and fled to the garrison of Major Philips, on the west side of the river, near where stood the covered bridge. It was built of strong timbers securely trunnelled together, the lower story a few feet smaller than the upper, so the enemy could not come to the side without being exposed to the muskets of those within. A day or two after they were secure within the garrison, Captain Bonython's house, which stood on the Saco side near Gray's Court, was discovered to be in flames.\* The siege had begun. The Indians slew the cattle, fired the houses, and attacked the garrison with the fury of demons. A discharge from the well-aimed muskets of the ensconced settlers repulsed them. Major Philips went to an upper window to watch their

\*September 18, 1675.

movements; a bullet from a lurking savage pierced his shoulder. The Indians, supposing he was killed, again rallied, and were again driven back; for they so exposed themselves to the fire from the garrison that six were killed on the spot, and others severely wounded. Among the latter was their leader, who retreated a short distance and fell. Seeing now that it was apparently impossible to take the garrison by storm, they set fire to the mills, supposing the men would come out to defend their property. But with them "discretion was the better part of valor," and they moved not from their stronghold, but made preparations for another siege. The Indians again attacked them, and the firing continued through the night till four o'clock in the morning. The Indians then took a cart used at the mills, loaded it with birch-bark and other combustibles, set it on fire, and attempted to run it against the house, and with long poles to throw fire upon the roof. While running it rapidly forward one wheel stuck in soft earth, the cart turned and the whole party was exposed to the fatal fire of the settlers. Fifteen were killed and wounded, and the survivors, sick of the assault and mortified at the repulse, withdrew to their canoes, and went down the river. Twenty-one of their number were killed and wounded, and Major Philips and two others were wounded at the garrison. This siege lasted eighteen hours. It was the first battle with Indians on this river.

Major Philips' garrison alone was left standing. On Sunday morning, he sent to Winter Harbor and informed the habitants of his distressed situation. "His ammunition was nearly exhausted, and the people in great dismay. All would be obliged to leave in a few days unless timely aid prevented;" but none could be spared to assist him, and on the Tuesday following, all removed to Winter Harbor, leaving the garrison unoccupied, and shortly after it was given to the flames by the infuriated savages. Thus commenced the first Indian war; and thus were entirely destroyed all the first buildings at Saco Falls.

There were, at this time, several settlers scattered along the river between the Falls and the Pool, whose houses were all destroyed, and many of the people slain.

Two days after the burning of Saco, September 20, 1675, a party of the enemy entered Scarboro'. At Black Point, Andrew Alger, or Auger, lieutenant of a company, his brother Arthur, and two companions, were on an exploring excursion; they were attacked by Indians in ambush; an engagement ensued, and Andrew was mortally wounded, while Arthur was killed on the spot.\*

From the first attack of the Indians, our settlers were in great consternation; before they could erect garrisons or make themselves secure, many were destroyed. This war, which burst upon them in sudden fury, lasted three years before there was a cessation of hostilities, and the scattered settlers at different points along the coast, from New Hampshire to the Kennebec, suffered severely. At Newichewannock (South Berwick), in October, the heroic Lieutenant Plaisted, whose sad story has been so often related in the histories of Maine, was killed. At Old Orchard, near Goose Fare Brook, Thomas Rogers' house was destroyed; and nine young men, including a son of Mr. Rogers, were attacked by Indians in ambush and all killed after an heroic defence of several hours.† Their bodies were afterwards found on the beach by the inhabitants, and

\*The two Algers, or Augers, came from Dunster Parish, in England, in 1650, and purchased of the Indians one thousand acres of land in what is now Scarborough. Arthur had no children; and John, son of Lieutenant Andrew, inherited the whole estate, which he transmitted to five daughters, one of whom, Elizabeth, married John Milliken, of Boston, who, in 1727, purchased the interests of the other heirs, established his claim, and settled with his family on the estate. The numerous families of Millikens in the vicinity descended from this John. Dunstan, a local name for a portion of Scarborough, is a corruption of Dunster, from which came the Algers who were the first English settlers in that part of the town.

†The settlements near New Hampshire were next marked for destruction. On their way thither they slew several at Wells, and carried others into captivity. At Strawberry Bank, now Portsmouth, they burnt several houses, killed six and captured several. Returning east, South Berwick, Salmon Falls, and Cape Porpoise suffered similar calamities.

buried near where the house stood. It was a reign of terror. The whole country was in arms. Men went to their business bearing the musket; and women worked with the well-charged muskets beside them. In the field, one farmer worked while another guarded the spot. At public worship, the laymen literally watched while the clergy prayed; armed men sat at the end of the seats, for the protection of the women.

This first Indian war, which commenced in September, 1675, lasted with unabated fury till the drifting snows of winter covered the scene, and shut the skulking savages in their settlements.

Winter was unfavorable for Indian warfare, and the tribes, having been diverted from their usual pursuits, during the excitement of the autumn, found themselves without sufficient supplies when winter came on. Their plunder was soon exhausted; the snows were too deep for hunting, or war; and without peace they saw that they must perish or suffer extreme famine. They therefore entered into a treaty, agreeing to cease hostilities and return all captives; and, true to their agreements, many who had been suffering in captivity were returned. This treaty, however, did not extinguish the flames of war; they were only smothered during the seven succeeding months, and in the spring were again kindled. Three anxious and exciting years passed, when a treaty was concluded at Casco (now Portland), April 12, 1678. For ten years the angel of peace smiled upon the distressed and discouraged settlement; their crushed hopes revived, and they gained strength and prosperity, till the breaking out of King William's war in 1698.

## CHAPTER V.

### FRENCH AND INDIAN WARS.

In 1689, a contest broke out between England and France which was destined to continue, with intervals of peace, for more than seventy years. Both countries wished to gain possession of India and America, and being unable to adjust their claims amicably, on account of long cherished antipathies, war was the result. The quarrel was communicated to the colonies, and the wars in America between 1689 and 1763 were simply the American side of the European conflict.

When news of the declaration of war reached the New World, the French colonists of Canada, with characteristic address, won the Indians to their cause and throughout the hostilities employed them to harass and plunder the English settlements. The first war began in 1689 and lasted nine years. From the name of the reigning English sovereign, it was called *King William's War*. During its continuance, the inhabitants of Saco were defended by several garrison houses and two forts. Of the latter, one, known as *Fort Mary*, stood on Fort Hill, at the terminus of Parker's Neck at Winter Harbor. It was commanded by Captain John Hill, son of Roger Hill, who settled on the western bank of the Saco River near its mouth, in 1653.\* Some suppose the captain named the fort in honor of Mary, his wife; others claim that it was in honor of Mary, wife of King William.

In this fort were several families; among the women was Captain Hill's mother, who remained with her son. Her hus-

\*Hill's Beach takes its name from this early settler.

band who was in Wells, wrote, in care of Captain John Hill, at Fort Mary, Saco, as follows :

WELLS, May 7, 1690.

DEAR AND LOVING WIFE: These are to let you know that we are all well here, blessed be God for it; and all our children remember their duty to you. The Indians have killed Goodman Frost and James Littlefield, and carried away Nathaniel Frost, and burnt several houses here at Wells, and I would have our son John Hill hire a boat, if he can, to bring you and some of our things by water, for I fear it is not safe to come by land. Son John, be as careful of your mother as possibly you can, for it is very dangerous times. The Lord only knows whether we shall ever see one another any more. Praying for your prosperity,

Your loving husband until death

ROGER HILL.

It seems that, as the war went on, the inhabitants became more distressed and there was danger that the Saco settlement would be entirely abandoned. Fort Mary was considered in danger, and this seemed to be the last stronghold for the people in the vicinity. The following letter gives a graphic idea of the country's condition :

WELLS, August 13, 1696.

SON HILL: I am now at Wells with twenty horse, intending to come over to you, but hearing of several guns about your parts I have sent over three men to know how it is with you. I have an order from the Governor to assist you in drawing off; and I have an order from the Lieutenant-Governor to draw off and bring away what can be transported by land, and to hide the rest in the ground with the guns; but our towns are so weak for want of men that if the enemy be about you we fear we are too weak to bring you off. . . . Our people are much troubled that your fort should be demolished. Let me hear from you by bearer. My love to yourself and wife. I pray God to keep you from the rage of the enemy.

I remain, your loving father-in-law,

CHARLES FROST.

"Tis said six Indians were seen here this day.

"To Captain John Hill, at Saco Fort.

Haste, Post Haste."

The above letter, with many others of a similar character,

addressed to "Captain John Hill, commanding His Majesty's Forces at Fort Mary, Saco," were found, fifty years ago, in the attic of a house in South Berwick, in an old chest that had not been opened for seventy years. These papers established many important historical facts, and corrected many errors which historians had made in regard to the transactions at the place from 1689 to 1700.

The second fort, mentioned above, was built in the summer of 1693, by Major Francis Hooke and Captain Hill. It was of stone and stood on high ground, on the western side of the river, a short distance below the falls. It was well-constructed and "proved a matter of good consequence to the province."\*

Of the various garrisons, one, occupied by John Brown, was at the falls, on the eastern (Saco) side, near where the York Bank now stands. The ground in this locality was once much higher than it is at present, and was formerly called Fort Hill. The Seaman garrison, on the same side of the river, was probably on the river bank about two miles from the sea. Captain Sharpe lived on Rendezvous Point,† near Haley's Gut. There were several fortified houses in what is now Biddeford in addition to the forts.

During King William's War, the Saco settlement enjoyed comparative immunity from attacks by the Indians. There were occasional murders and depredations, but no great attempt was made to wipe out the settlement, as in King Philip's War. One interesting incident of the period, many times recounted already, demands notice. The story runs, that during this war a party of Indians who had been making serious depredations in Kittery and Berwick, came upon the inhabitants of Saco. Captain Humphrey Seaman was mowing in a meadow, when this party came upon his house, about which were his wife and five children. His little son, a lad of ten

\*Cotton Mather's *Magnalia*. See also a letter among the York Institute papers relating to this fort.

†So named because a favorite gathering place for the Indians.

years, was bearing to his father a mug of beer, when he saw the Indians coming towards the house. He immediately returned to inform his mother, and placed the mug of beer on the dresser. Mrs. Scamman had no time to make her escape or alarm the neighboring settlers, and became a captive with her whole family. She firmly refused to give information concerning the whereabouts of her husband. Threats were of no avail; but having received from the chief a promise that all their lives should be spared, she told where he could be found, and he also was made a captive.

The Indians, fearing an attack from the stone fort on the opposite side of the river, made a hasty flight, taking with them only a few articles of plunder.\* Elated with the number of captives they had taken, they hastened to Canada, following an Indian trail through the woods, stopping at Peckwogett (now Fryeburg), formerly the capital of the Sokoki tribe. Here the prisoners were made the objects of savage cruelty. A council was held, and it was decided that the captives should be slain; but the chief was faithful to the promise made to Mrs. Scamman, and he ordered them to be taken to Canada, where they were disposed of to the French, and scattered through different parts of the province. They passed through various hardships during their captivity. About a year later, a treaty was made, when they were all returned in safety. They found their house in the same condition in which they left it; no one had disturbed it, and at the door sat a favorite cat, which had been the only occupant of the premises during their absence. Upon the dresser stood the beer-mug which the boy placed there when he returned to give the alarm. This mug is still in existence in Saco, owned by a descendant of the family.† It is

\*A boy, named Robinson, discovered the Indians about the Scamman house and made his escape on horseback. Arriving at Gray's Point, he swam the horse to Cow Island where he left him, and swam, himself, to the opposite shore, reaching the fort in safety. He found only a few old men and women within; but the women put on men's clothes and showed themselves about the fortifications and the Indians did not dare to cross the river.

†Mr. Joseph Moody.



SCAMMAN MUG.



brown stoneware, evidently made in Holland, and bears an outline picture of William, Prince of Orange, who married Mary, the daughter of James II., and was called to the English throne in 1689; previous to which he had acquired great popularity in Holland by successfully conducting wars against the French. The mug was evidently made in commemoration of his victories, and is more than two hundred years old. A daughter, who had been in captivity with her parents, was again captured in Scarborough in 1723, and carried to Canada, where she was received into the governor's family, educated, and married to a gentleman in Quebec. Capt. Seaman dwelt at the "ordinary" after his return, and entertained travellers till his death, in 1727.\*

In 1698, the war between England and France, and consequently King William's War in America, came to an end. Peace was made with the Indians and a treaty agreed upon at a place called Mar's Point, Casco Bay. The respite thus gained was short. Queen Anne ascended the throne of England in 1702 and hostilities were immediately renewed. In August, 1703, a body of 500 French and Indians attacked all the settlements from Casco to Wells and succeeded in killing or capturing 130 people. A garrison at Winter Harbor and the 'Stone Fort' at Saco Falls were besieged by the enemy. The garrison was forced to capitulate. There is no record that the fort was surrendered; but the loss was heavy, eleven of the English being killed and twenty-four captured. In January, 1704, Brown's garrison was unsuccessfully attacked. Three years later, an engagement occurred at Winter Harbor between two small vessels, manned by eight men and a boy, and a fleet of fifty canoes, containing 150 Indians. The action lasted three hours, but the settlers escaped with the loss of only one man.

\*A portion of the Seaman estate was purchased in 1753, by Deacon Amos Chase, who kept the ferry and "ordinary" till 1758, when the first bridge across Saco River, at the Falls, was projected; and as the population in that vicinity had greatly increased, the travel turned in that direction, and the Lower Ferry and the public house were discontinued.

The following year (1708), the forces of the stone fort at the falls were transferred to Fort Mary which was, henceforth, the central point of defence.\* In August, 1710, fifty French and Indians attacked Winter Harbor, killed a woman and captured two men. A second assault was made the very next year when three of the settlers were killed and six taken prisoner. In July, 1713, having become weary of the war, the Indians made peace, declaring in the treaty then drawn up that they "begged the Queen's pardon for their former miscarriages." The treaty of Utrecht tranquillized affairs in Europe, and the colonial prospect became bright once more. "The dispersed inhabitants began to return to their deserted homes from the more secure settlements to which they had fled for safety; the garrisons and forts, in which those who remained had been confined, were now abandoned, and the town, instead of presenting to the eye the dreary aspect of tenantless dwellings and uncultivated fields, became, once more, the abode of a busy and industrious, though not a numerous population."†

The French were not altogether satisfied with the result of the war which had failed to check the growth of English colonization. They accordingly stirred up the Indians, in private, against the settlers, and provided them with arms and ammunition. The danger from marauding bands of savages, instigated in this way, grew so great, that, in 1723, it was found necessary to reinforce the garrisons at Saco. The precaution proved timely, since in May, 1724, a party of Indians were in the vicinity and probably would have attacked the settlement, but for the soldiers stationed there. As it was, they succeeded in killing one man,—a friendly Indian named David Hill. In 1726, peace was once more agreed upon. One of the terms of the treaty was, that trading-houses or *truck-houses* should be

\*Folsom says that Fort Mary was built in 1708. This is incorrect, since mention is made of it by name in the provincial records prior to 1700. See Acts and Resolves of the Province of Mass. Bay. The works were demolished by order of Gen'l Court passed Nov. 1733.

†Folsom.

established at convenient places, where the Indians could exchange furs and kindred commodities for the goods of civilized countries. Fort Mary was fixed upon as a suitable location for such a barter post, but the inhabitants objected, and a well fortified building was erected on the western bank of the river, about nine miles above Saco Falls. A sergeant and ten men were stationed there to protect the traffic.

The treaty proved the most satisfactory of any that had been made and the settlements prospered under its provisions for nearly twenty years. The war between England and France, which broke out in 1744 and lasted until 1748, interrupted the reign of peace. The Indians were still on the side of the French and gave the settlements some trouble, but no great calamity befell Saco. The last visit of hostile Indians to the town was in 1746. In the subsequent war with France, only the most eastern settlements were attacked. The people of Saco were, however, alive to the issue, and when Cape Breton Island yielded to English arms, in 1758, there was great rejoicing. Some of the most enthusiastic of the towns people illuminated their houses, after the fashion of modern days. It was the last display of British loyalty which the settlers were allowed to make. When next they asserted themselves it was in the cause of American Independence.

## CHAPTER VI.

### MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS 1653-1762.

THE year 1653, being the date of the incorporation of Saco by Massachusetts, marks the beginning of town history proper. Previous to that time, the patents on Saco River had been mere proprietary tracts, whose government had been prescribed by foreign authorities. The absorption of the settlement by the Bay Colony brought with it the opportunity for municipal organization. From tenants, the inhabitants found themselves transformed into voters, free to enjoy the benefits of what was, to a certain extent, a republican form of government and at liberty to control, better than formerly, the current of local affairs, by the election of officers of their own nomination. The laws of Massachusetts, which had insisted that church membership should constitute a qualification for suffrage, were modified so that the Episcopalians and 'liberals' of Maine might have a voice in civil and military affairs, and the adopted towns were empowered to send representatives to the General Court of the Province. In brief, the new situation in which the settlements of York County found themselves was made as comfortable as practicable.

The town records of Saco begin with the year 1653 and, with some interruptions, continue until 1688 when there is a break of thirty years. From 1717 on, the entries are complete. The importance of preserving an accurate and detailed account of local happenings was not appreciated in the early days, and the narrative which the town books afford is fragmentary and unsatisfactory. Even when no pages are missing, connecting links in the record are omitted and these must be supplied by

the student of history from other sources. Sometimes such supplementing is impossible.

Incomplete as the records are, they reveal the fact that the interests of the town were judiciously managed. The first entry, that for September 27, 1653, reads as follows:

"It is granted by ye Townsmen of Saco, that Roger Spencer shall have libertie to set up a saw-mill within their Township, provided that he doth make her redie to doe execution within one year; and allso that he shall have sufficiente accommadation for such a work upon this condition that all the Townsmen shall have bordes 12d in a hundred cheaper than any stranger.

Secondly that the Townsmen shall be employed in the worke before a stranger, provided that they doe their worke so cheap as a stranger; this accomadation we have granted to him and his heaires forever."

This was probably the first saw-mill in town. A similar grant was made, soon after, to John Davies of York, upon very much the same conditions.

Several measures taken by the townspeople to secure the healthy growth of the colony are commendable; and one or two of them might well have a reenactment in these modern days. For example, in 1654 it was ordered "by ye Towne yt if any outner desire to come into the Towne to inhabite—they shall first put in sufisient sum so not to be chargeable to ye Towne."

And furthermore, say the records,

"It is ordered by the Selectmen that every one that hath land granted to them for a house lott they shall build and dwell upon y<sup>e</sup> same within one yeare after it is granted or be liable to a fine at y<sup>e</sup> will of ye Towne: 6 month 20 day 1654."

No man could plead ignorance of the town statutes, since one of them, voted in 1655, provided that every freeman should be present at town meeting, on penalty of fine.

In the records, the inhabitants are usually mentioned without titles. The abbreviation 'Mr.,' prefixed to a name meant that the owner of it was a man of some consequence. The instance of Josiah Plaistow, who was brought before the court in Boston

for stealing from the Indians, is famous. It will be remembered that the court decreed "that he should, thereafter, be called by the name of Josias, and not Mr., as formerly he used to be." Ladies of quality were styled *Mistress*, while the common planters' wives were *Goodies*. This was a custom derived from the old country. An instance of the distinction is not far to seek. A meeting-house was built at Winter Harbor sometime between 1660 and 1666. When it was finished, the seats were assigned at town meeting. '*Mistress Mavericke, Phillips'* and others were to occupy bench number one. '*Goodies Wadock, Gibbins'* and several more came next in number two; and so on.

Other interesting entries occur. One, in particular, relating to a jail built at Casco, illustrates the early method of paying taxes: "March 6:

1667: The Selectmen being mett to make a rate for charges about ye gaole or prison at Casco ye Deputies there do order this Towne to pay £15—16s—11d which sum is concluded on & a rate made by them to be gathered in by ye 25 day of this month wher ye Constable shall paye in wheat at five & six pence ye bushill—Indian corn at 3s—6d—any other pay at price curant—reye at 4s—ye place of receiving such pay is appoynted to be at ye stage in Ralph Trustrum house ther—and four pounds for every bushill they shall pay beside to Ralph Trustrum for the fright of it & for any other pay they may agre with goodman Trustrum to eary it.

as atests,

Rob. Booth,  
Towne Clarek."

When Maine became a part of Massachusetts, the laws and polities of the last named province were accepted by the adopted people. According to the charter of Massachusetts, the government was in the hands of a Governor, Deputy-Governor, council of eighteen assistants and house of deputies, all of whom were chosen by the people. The Governor, Deputy-Governor, Major-General of the militia, the Secretary, the County-Treasurer, the Admiral and the two Commissioners of the United Colonies were called "General Officers" and were elected, annually, on the last Wednesday in May.

The Assembly of Assistants and Deputies presided over by the Governor, was termed the "General Court," and was, to the province, what the legislature is to the present state of Maine. The Deputies, or Representatives to the General Court, were elected by the towns. No town could send more than two and if it contained only twenty freemen, or less, one man was considered a sufficient delegation. No person could be a Deputy who was "unsound in the main points of the christian religion, as held forth and acknowledged by the generality of the protestant orthodox writers."

Saco was first represented at the General Court by Robert Booth, in 1659, and the year following by Richard Hitchcock. The law did not require the Deputy to be a resident of the town that he represented and in 1675 Captain Richard Waldron of Dover was Saco's choice.

The military was an important department of the province economy. All able-bodied freemen and those who had taken the "oath of residents" belonged to the trainbands. Those in a town constituted a company and if their number was sixty or over they were entitled to a captain and subordinate officers. Previous to 1658, the captain, lieutenant and ensign were chosen in town meeting; afterwards, they were elected by the members of the company. The soldiery of each county formed a regiment, which was commanded by a sergeant-major who mustered his companies once in three years. At the head of all the militia was the Major-General, already mentioned. The militia were required to train by companies six times a year; and at least two-thirds of the men must have muskets and powder cases; the remainder might serve with pikes.

A few entries in the town records relate to military affairs. Two of the most interesting are here given entire. The second is especially curious:

"Aprill 12.

1667:

James Gibbins chosen for ye Master of ye Magesin

It is voated yt a sum of twelve pounds be colected to by powder & shot & other things for ye mayne band :”

“August 24: 1671:

The Selectmen being mett do act as followeth:

Occasioned by a warrant from ye Maior Generall: they do agre to send to ye Maior Generall for a barill of powder & a hundred wight of stone shott & pistle bulits for ye Towne stock & doe ingage themselves iontly to pay for it this fall in wheat, fish or hyds: & allso do order Maior Bryon Pendleton to send a letter to the Maior General to procure it for us with all convenient speed.

Brian Pendleton.

James Gibbins.

Robert Booth.

Roger Hill.”

The second period of Indian Wars is not recorded. The time was not suited for the observance of municipal routine, and if any records were kept they were destroyed in one of the many fires set by the savages. The thirty years immediately preceding 1717 are, therefore, a comparative blank in the history of Saco.

In 1718, the town of Saco was reorganized under the name of Biddeford. This was in answer to a petition addressed to the General Court by Humphrey Scamman and others, in which the weak condition of the town was set forth, and a request made for a grant of forty pounds for the support of a minister at Winter Harbor. All that is positively known with regard to the action of the Court in the matter, may be found written on a musty leaf of paper, which forms one of the York Institute collection of documents. The writing covers but one half of a single page. It purports to be a “Copy of the Incorporation of Biddeford” and reads as follows:

“A Petition of Humphrey Scamman and Others of Saco. Entered November 4th 1718, In the House of Representatives November 12th 1718 Read and Committed. Novr. 14th Read and Resolved that the Sum of Forty Pounds be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury towards the Support of a Minister at Winter Harbour for this year and that the Petitioners be Invested with the Powers &c of a Town according to the Ancient Bounds thereof. In Council Novr. 14th 1718 Read and concurred, with the following amend-

ments, viz.—Provided that this order shall in no measure Infringe the just titles of Any Person to Lands there, and that Fifty Families at the Least more than now are be admitted as soon as may be and Settle in a Compact and Defensible manner according to the Direction of the Honle. John Wheelwright Esqr. and others the Committee for Regulating the Eastern Settlements and that the Name thereof be Biddeford\*—In the House of Representatives Read and Concurred—Consented to

Saml. Shute

Province of the Massachusetts Bay Nov. 14. 1718."

It is during these years of reconstruction that the name of Pepperrell first becomes connected with Saco history. In order to understand how Sir William came to own his estate on the east side of Saco River, it is necessary to revert briefly to the XVIIth century.

At the outbreak of the Indian Wars, the mill rights on the eastern bank of Saco River, from Pipe Stave Point† to the Buxton line, together with a large share of the original patent, were owned by two enterprising men named Blackman and Walker.‡ During the hostilities the improvements begun by them were abandoned and Blackman's Mill was burned. Blackman's third of the property, moreover, passed out of his hands, and, in 1716, it was held by Thomas Goodwill of Boston. In 1716, Samuel Walker sold his two-thirds to William Pepperrell, Jr., and the following year Goodwill disposed of his portion to the same young man. Immediately after these transactions, Pepperrell sold one half of the whole tract—one fourth to Nathaniel Weare, of Hampton, and one-fourth to Humphrey Scamman Jr., of Saco. These men, in part payment for their shares, built a double saw-mill, on the site of the old Blackman mill, and a dwelling-house for the workmen, one half of all of which became Pepperrell's. A division of the

\*The first recorded town meeting under the new name was held in March, 1719. The origin of the name is probably to be traced to the fact that many of the Saco colonists emigrated from Biddeford, England.

†Now Gray's Point, formerly Pipe Stave because staves for wine pipes were cut there.(?)

‡Appendix C, 1.

mill and of an adjoining lot of land half a mile square, known as the mill privilege, was made in December, 1717. Pepperrell took a breadth of 80 rods comprising the central part of the town east of Main street.\* The tract owned in common was no less than four miles and a half long and two miles wide, i. e., to the middle line of the patent. In October (20), 1718, this area was divided:† Pepperrell obtained a strip 44 rods wide measuring up river from Nichols' brook and two miles deep; the boundaries of his 80 rod strip, assigned to him the year before, were extended to the middle line of the patent; and he also secured large territory on the westerly side of Main street.‡ Ignoring his other acquisitions, which were much more extensive, but not so important in town history, Pepperrell is seen to have owned a strip of land 80 rods wide and two miles long, the western boundary, at the beginning of the strip, being Main street.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wm Pepperrell". The signature is fluid and expressive, with a large, sweeping initial 'W' and 'm' followed by 'Pepperrell'.

William Pepperrell Jr., was, as his name implies, the son of William Pepperrell, trader at Kittery Point. At the time of his purchase of the Saco lands, the young merchant was only twenty years of age. He afterward commanded the army which reduced Louisburg in 1745. The credit of this achievement Pepperrell was not slow in taking to himself and for his success he was made a baronet. He is the only baronet of whom York County can boast.

In business ventures Pepperrell was as successful as in warfare and he died, in 1759, (July 6) the wealthiest man, in all probability, in New England. His estates in Saco alone amounted to 5500 acres. Not having any sons, the baronet

\*Appendix C, 2. †Main street was laid out at same time. ‡Appendix C, 3.

devised his fortune to his grandson, William Pepperrell Sparhawk, on condition that when the youth became of age he should drop his last name and be known as William Pepperrell.

Tradition has clothed Sir William Pepperrell in glowing colors which impartial history tends slightly to dispel. Stories are told of how he was occasionally seen in Saco, attired in red broadcloth, trimmed with gold lace, and it is said that he was known to throw a gold coin into the contribution box. The good people who relate the anecdote are inclined, naturally, to picture Sir William as a very warm hearted personage. Others, as well informed, perhaps, as those who praise him, declare that the baronet was never a source of the slightest advantage to Saco and that he regarded the town merely from the money-making standpoint. His recorded acts of generosity are, to be sure, few; but his forgotten deeds of charity may be many and it is but fair to credit him with a decent generosity. It is most likely that Sir William Pepperrell was an average man in kindness, with an eye to personal advantage, but not unwilling to do his tenants a good turn.

Aside from the acquisition of the main part of Saco by Pepperrell, the most interesting event of the period from 1717 to 1762 is the building of the famous *Lottery Bridge*. By way of introduction to that event a brief account of early methods and means of travel will not be out of place.

In the earliest times there were no legally established roads. The first settlers located near the sea-shore, and the most convenient means of communication between neighborhoods separated by any considerable distance was by water. Next to that, the long beaches furnished the best highways, and for many years the only roads ran along the coast close to the ocean. In 1653, the Massachusetts commissioners, who came into Maine to receive the submission of the inhabitants, complained of the lack of decent roads between the settlements and ordered that "the inhabitants of Wells, Saco and Cape Porpoise should make sufficient highways within their towns from house to house

and clear and fit for foot and cart before the next county court under penalty of £10 for every defect in this particular: and that they lay out a sufficient highway for horse and foot between towns and towns within that time." The injunction fell lightly upon the ears of the settlers, who laid out a road as ordered, but soon returned to the pleasanter route along the shore. The new road grew up with bushes and, in 1687, "the old foot-path on the western side of Saco river" was made the *King's Highway*, and the court ordered that it should 'be laid out and fenced at the charge of the town.' The post road from Saco to Kennebunk was not laid out until about 1730.

The brooks and rivers along the ancient route were forded, where practicable, the fords being termed "wading places." Goose Fare was crossed in this manner, but the Saco river was too deep for wading and a ferry was established near its mouth very early. The first ferrymen were Thomas Haley and Henry Waddock\* who were licensed by town vote in 1654. The record reads:

Thomas Haile is allowed to take of every one yt he settis over ye river (2.d.)

Henry Waddock is appointe i to keep an or linarie† & [receive] of every one he sets over ye river 2d.

Haley lived on the western bank of the river and Waddock on the eastern side. Waddock continued to serve the public in his double capacity, as ferryman and innkeeper, until about 1673—the year of his death. Thomas Haley remained at his post for a number of years after his partner's demise and was ordered, in 1673, "for the more secure transportation of travellers, for men and horses, to provide a good sufficient boat fit for carrying persons and their horses, large enough to carry over three horses at one time."

In 1717, a petition was presented to the General Court, by one Captain Bean, "in behalf of himself, Casco bay and Black-point," in which it was stated that the water at the mouth of

\*One of the earliest settlers. In court records his name is spelled Warwick.  
See p. 11. †Public house.

the river was too rough for comfort and that the ferryman, Benjamin Haley, was negligent. It was, therefore, asked that a new ferry be put in operation 'higher up, where H. Seaman then dwelt, whose father for many years had kept the ferry till, in the late war, he had been driven away by Indians,' and that 'said Seaman might be appointed by the court to keep the ferry at that place.' The request was granted.

Shortly before 1750, a ferry was established at the falls, the course lying below the present bridges. It was kept on the western side by one Elisha Allen who entertained travellers in his small one-story house. He afterward built on the spot the house now occupied by Madam White.

On January 11, 1758,\* the General Court passed the following act :

AN ACT FOR RAISING THE SUM OF ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED POUNDS BY LOTTERY, FOR BUILDING AND MAINTAINING A BRIDGE OVER SACO AND PESUMPCOT RIVERS, IN THE COUNTY OF YORK.

Whereas the eastern part of said county of York has been formerly broke up by the enemy, and the getting troops to their relief is extremely difficult, if not impracticable, in some seasons of the year, there being no passing in boats or any other way over the rivers of Saco and Pesumpseot[t], and the building a bridge over said rivers will be of public service.—

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council and House of Representatives,*

[Sect. 1.] That Sir William Pepperrell, Baronet, Daniel Moulton, Edward Milliken, Joseph Sayer and Rushworth Jordan, Esqrs., Messrs Benjamin Chadburn and Stephen Longfellow or any three of them be and hereby are allowed and impowered to set[t] up and carry on a lottery or lotteries, which shall amount to such a sum as, by deducting ten per cent out of each prize, will raise the sum of one thousand two hundred pounds, to be appl[y]ed by them or any three of them, towards building and maintaining a good and sufficient bridge over each of said rivers of Saco and Pesumpscot[t], at or near the lower falls of said rivers, and for defraying the necessary charges of the lottery aforesaid.

\*Folsom is wrong in dating the act 1757.

And the said Sir William Pepperrell, Daniel Moulton, Edward Milliken, Joseph Sayer, Rushworth Jordan, Esqrs., Benjamin Chadburn and Stephen Longfellow or any three of them may and hereby are impowered to make all necessary rules for the regular proceeding therein, and shall be sworn to the faithful[ly] discharge of their trust aforesaid, and be answerable to the owners of the ticket[t]s and for any deficiency or misconduct; and that the monies so raised shall be appl[y]ed for the uses and purposes aforesaid and no other.

[Sect. 2.] And if the sum raised shall be more than sufficient, after paying of the charges of the lottery, to build the said bridges, the surplusage shall be lodged in the hands of the treasurer of the county of York. to be drawn out and appl[y]ed towards repairs of the said bridges.

An advertisement appeared in the *Boston Gazette* announcing that the first drawing would occur at York, in May, 1759. The price of the tickets was \$2.00 and the highest prize is said to have amounted to \$1,000. The scheme was carried out for two or three years one drawing following another, until a sufficient sum had been raised. The bridge over the Saco was built about 1760. It was on the eastern side and crossed to Factory (then Indian) Island just above the present bridge and at a considerable angle to it. It was the first bridge over any part of the river. The first bridge on the west side of Indian Island was built by Col. Thomas Cutts, Deacon Amos Chase, and others, in 1767. The complete communication thus established between the two settlements was never after permanently interrupted.

*County of York-Lottery, N° III. Nov. 1760.*

**T**HE Possessor of this Ticket (No 1026) is intitled to any Prize drawn against said Number, in a LOTTERY granted by an Act of the General Court of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, January 1758 towards building and maintaining a Bridge over Saco and Pesumpscot Rivers in said County, without any Deduction.

E

*Rishw-Jordan*

*County of York-Lottery N° III. Nov. 1760.*

**T**HE Possessor of this Ticket (No 1027) is intitled to any Prize drawn against said Number, in a LOTTERY granted by an Act of the General Court of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, January 1758, towards building and maintaining a Bridge over Saco and Pesumpscot Rivers in said County, without any Deduction.

F

*Rishw-Jordan*



## CHAPTER VII.

### ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS 1636-1762—MORALS AND MANNERS.

THE settlers of Saco were not, like the Pilgrim Fathers, religious refugees. They were plain, hard-working fishermen and farmers, bent on earning their bread honestly, and beyond the commonplace of providing for daily subsistence, their sympathies had a comparatively narrow range. They had been attracted to the country by the prospect of bettering their fortunes and if they could succeed in attaining this end, the majority were not over particular as to the method of their religious observances or the doctrines of their neighbors. They were more or less strongly attached to the Church of England, in which they had been reared, and its ceremonies were probably somewhat more acceptable to them than the severer code of the Puritans; but they were quite the reverse of bigoted in their preferences, and were willing to grant a hearing to any sect, except the Romanists, for whom they entertained the conventional suspicion and dislike.

As a consequence of its liberal spirit, Saco was spared the experience of persecutions like those which—however much they are condoned—mar the history of Massachusetts. The inhabitants of the town were more apt to quarrel over boundaries and the payment of debts, than over their rival theological opinions, and so long as a man conducted himself in accordance with the usages of moral society, he was comparatively at liberty to think as he chose.

A certain amount of heterodoxy in belief was thus ignored, but the authorities permitted no departure from the strict standard of deportment demanded by the laws of Great Britain.

While he might privately debate his doubts and formulate his peculiar doctrines, no man could violate the Sabbath, use profane language, or absent himself from church, without incurring the censure of his associates and the penalty of the law. One is apt to think of punishments for such misdemeanors as an expression of the theocratic discipline of Massachusetts, but enactments against them were on the statute-books of England and in the early days of Saco, lapses in morals and religion were visited with the same correction that was inflicted in the mother country. The laws may have been strengthened and more ardently enforced by the magistrates of New England, but they were not devised by them.

The Saco colony was, thus, in the beginning, strictly English in character, and so it remained until altered in its customs and institutions by the encroachments of Puritan jurisdiction. In accordance with the wishes of Gorges, and the predilections of those settlers who had preferences in the matter, the service of the Church of England was the earliest introduced into Saco.

The first clergyman was Richard Gibson whose name occurs in the court records for 1636. Although not assuming the name, Gibson was, in fact, a missionary to the Maine settlements and divided his time and ministrations among them all. He belonged no more to Saco than to Richmond's Island, and probably preached only occasionally in either place. Whether or not there was a church building in Saco, during Gibson's residence in the vicinity, is not altogether certain, although the supposition that there was one is rendered likely by the fact, that the *Church Point*\* is mentioned in a document dated 1642.

Gibson, being, as Winthrop quaintly says, "wholly addicted to the hierarchy and discipline of England," was an object of some jealousy to the powers of the Bay Colony and they embraced the first opportunity that offered to lay violent hands upon him. It appears that Gibson had encroached on the

\*Identified with Gray's Point.

Puritan territory by exercising his ministerial functions at the Isles of Shoals. Incensed by this action, the officers of Massachusetts secured his arrest and he would have been severely punished had he not declared his intention of leaving the country; a promise which he kept by returning to England in 1642.

The Rev. Robert Jordan came to Saco, from the west of England, in 1640. He settled near the Spurwink River and lived on the extensive estate he accumulated until 1675, when he was led to remove by the outbreak of the Indian Wars. Under the government of Maine by Massachusetts he was imprisoned for baptising infants.

In the fragmentary account of the two men Gibson and Jordan, is summed up almost the entire history of the Episcopal church in Saco, for a period of an hundred and fifty years. At first, the Church of England was the only sect thought of by the people. Its doctrines were inculcated by duly authorized teachers and enforced by law;\* but Massachusetts was on the alert and the town soon proved an easy conquest for the Puritan missionaries. The inhabitants held their religious tenets only by the imperfect tenure of hereditary and educational associations; their beliefs had never been ingrained by persistent persecution, as in the case of the Pilgrims, and when the time came for discussion, they could oppose but feeble arguments, to the fiery eloquence of the non-conformist divines. This circumstance is illustrated by the following extract from a letter to Governor Winthrop by Thomas Jenner—a non-conformist who made his way to Saco about 1640:—

"After I had been here for the space of a month or six weeks and perceiving them very superstitious (performing man's inventions

\*The religious tenets of the early settlers are amply demonstrated to have been Episcopalian by the action of the court held at Saco, September 17, 1640, which ordered "that the Worshipfull Thos. Gorges and Edward Godfrey Councillors of this Province shall order all the Inhabitants from Piscataqua to Kennebunk, which have any children unbaptized, that as soon as a minister is settled in any of their plantations, they bring their said children to Baptism, and if any shall refuse to submit to the said order, that the partie so refusing shall be summoned to answer this their contempt at the next General Court to be holden in this province."

rather than the instituted worship of God), now that I might gaine their good esteeme of God's pure ordinances, and make them see the evil and folly of their superstitions and will-worship, I made choice of Ps. 19 and 7 to handle it at large; and in one of the uses of reproof, I bent myself, as strongly as I could, against the religion of the Papists and condemned those practices which I saw people here were superstitiously addicted to, in that use against the Papists ; \* \* \* \* \* Now \* \* \* it took a generall good impression, except Mr. Vines and one more, who told me I struck at the Church of England, though I mentioned her not. Whereupon he pressed me to dispute with him about one part \* \* \* \* which I was very loth to dispute about; yet I saw that either I must, or else sit down with shame, for he had called together his whole family to hear it. Now it pleased God so to strengthen me \* \* \* \* \* that he was utterly silent; and since that time hath manifested more respect and love to me and my master than formerly, and doth take notes of the sermons dayly and repeateth them in his family very orderly, as I am informed."

Thomas Jenner was the first clergyman actually settled in Saco and he also bears the distinction, practically undisputed, of having been the first Puritan minister to preach in Maine. His reception in the settlement is evident from a letter to Winthrop by Richard Vines :

*"To the right Worshipfull his honoreā freind John Winthrop : Esqr. at Boston, thes in Massachusetts.*

RIGHT WORSHIPFULL,—I received your letter concerning Mr. Jenner; acknowledging your former courtesies to my selfe, and for your furtherance of a minister for vs, our whole Plantacion ar greatly behoulding vnto you. We haue ioyned both sides of our river together for his mayntenance, and haue willingly contributed for his stipend, 47l per annum: hoping the Lord will blesse and sanctifie his word vnto vs, that we may be both hearers and doers of the word and will of God. I like Mr. Jenner his life and conver. sacion, and alsoe his preaching, if he would lett the Church of Eng- land alone; that doth much trouble me, to heare our mother Church questioned for her impurity vpon every occasion, as if Men (minis- ters I meane) had no other marke to aime at \* \* \* \* \*

Your assured freind and servant,

RICH: VINES.

Saco, 25th of January, 1640."

Jenner's opinion of the people and his account of how he was treated is likewise very interesting :

*"To the Right Worship his very loueing & kind friend Mr. Wintrop at his house in Boston in N. E. giue theise I pray.*

WORTHY SIR :—My due respect being remembered to you, I heartily salute you in the Lord; giuing you humble thanks, for your favourable aspect which hath alwaies bin towards me, (though of me most undeserued,) and especially for your late kind letter on my behalfe; for which sake I was kindly imbraced, aboue the expectation of my selfe, & others, and am still (I thank God) loueingly respected amongst them: but not with out some hot discourses, (especially about the ceremonies;) yet they all haue ended (through mercy) in peace; and for aught I can perceive. doe prize the word, & relish it, dayly better than other and some promise faire; euen in Mr. Vines his family. But generally they were very ignorant, superstitious, & vitious: and scarce any religious. Ffre leaue they giue me to doe what soever I please: imposeing nothing on me, eithre publikly or privately, which my selfe dislike, onely this, Mr. Vines & the Captaine [Richard Bonython] both, haue timely expressed themselves to be utterly against church-way, saying, their Patent doth prohibit the same; yet I, for my part neuer once touched upon it, except when they themselves haue in private discourse put me upon it by questions of their owne, ffor I count it no season asyet to go build, before God sends vs materials to build with all. Thus being in some hast, I end humbly crauing your prayers:

Your worships to command

THO: JENNER."

Saco, 4th of the last, 1640.

Jenner left Saco about 1646 and for some years after his departure the town was without a settled minister. Robert Booth, who occupied at various times most of the offices in the

community, seems to have had the faculty of preaching and was employed, in 1658-9, as a makeshift, by the inhabitants, "to teach the word on the Lord's day." In 1665, there were two candidates for the Saco pastorate, Rev. Seth Fletcher and a Rev. Mr. Chauncy. Chauncy was chosen, by a vote of twenty-

four to eleven, but his ministrations appear to have become distasteful to the people, since the very next year a matter-of-fact record states, that 'it was the consent of the major part of the inhabitants that Master Chauncey might be safely sent home as speedily as conveniently might be; and two of the towns men were appointed to take care for his passage at the town's expense.' The Rev. Seth Fletcher, who succeeded the luckless Mr. Chauncey, became very popular and was retained for nine years, at a salary of £50 per annum—paid in fish. The usual method of paying the minister is not certainly known, but it was probably by the old English levy of tithes or tenths; or, by a 'composition,' in money, made up by the settlers. The Rev. William Milburne, who assumed the pastoral charge of Saco in 1685, received his salary for 1685-6 'in beef at 1 1-2d. per lb.; pork 2 1-2d.; wheat 4s. 6d. per bushel; peas 4s 6d.; Indian corn 3s.; butter 5d. per lb.; boards 18s. per M.; red oak staves 16s.'

The ministry of Milburne marks the close of the first period of Saco's ecclesiastical history, no further mention of a clergyman being found until the reorganization of the town in the early years of the XVIIIth century.

The moral standard of the town, during this first epoch, seems to have been higher than that of most neighboring settlements. The well-known liberal tendencies of society in Maine led many reckless and dissolute characters to seek refuge within its boundaries and wherever they established themselves was disorder and lawlessness. The population of Saco appears never to have been tainted by this low element, and throughout its early history the inhabitants maintained a laudable respectability. The high character of the patentees may have brought about this result, since they would naturally choose for their settlement men of a stamp to correspond with their own; and the fact that Saco was the seat of the court was probably no recommendation for it in the minds of rogues; at all events, society in Saco was characterized by a degree of refinement not

always found elsewhere. It is a matter of regret that no extended account of the period is obtainable.

It is known that no man was allowed to waste his time in idleness; that thrift was the watch-word of the hour; and that the means taken to promote industry and temperance were admirable. The key-note of the prohibition movement, which has made Maine famous, was sounded over two hundred years ago, when, in 1690, the court ordered that from that time, henceforth, there should not be *any* strong liquor sold to any inhabitant, directly or indirectly, except in case of great necessity. Those were the days when church and state were one. The religious meeting and the court were complementary institutions, and when pastoral admonition failed of effect, the law claimed its own. The minister and the justice worked together for the attainment of a common end.\*

It is interesting to note the method of worship in those early days. The people came together without the sound of bell and sat for two or three hours—sometimes more—in a building imperfectly heated, if at all. It has been said that the early settlers never artificially warmed their meeting-houses, on the principle that a proper amount of religious fervor is a sufficient safeguard against inclement weather. But old John Winthrop tells about a minister who nearly blew the roof off his meeting-house, in far from a figurative sense, by drying gun powder over the fire.

Under the somnolent influence of long sermons and low temperature, some members of the congregation were fairly certain to go to sleep. A tything man was accordingly hired, to see that the people paid due attention to the discourse. This man went armed with a slender pole, on one end of which was a

\*For the punishment of offenders the town was provided with stocks as early as 1637. There was not much use for them, if we are to judge from history, since, in 1665, the town was found without any punitive apparatus whatever and was indicted for not maintaining "a pair of stocks, cage and coulking stool." The use of the articles enumerated is familiar. Not one remains in use in New England today.

rabbit's tail, and on the other, a rabbit's foot. Whenever one of the goodies nodded, her face was gently brushed with the rabbit's tail; but when a man or boy succumbed, he was restored to consciousness by a smart application of the other end of the rod.

The pulpit was high and attained by winding stairs. The boys sat on the pulpit stairs and on the gallery stairs. The seats in the body of the house were assigned according to sex; or rank—sometimes both. Age was also regarded. The singing was not very elaborate; our ancestors were not ritualists. Most congregations could sing five tunes, with greater or less harmony. Sometimes, a church whose membership included accomplished singers extended the number to ten—"York," "Hackney," "Martyrs," and "Winsor" were favorites.\*

Such, in brief, were the religious opinions of the first settlers and the events and customs arising from them. Their investigation is especially necessary and important in the study of local occurrences, because much of the early history of the town centers about the church. For the first two centuries of New England, in most communities, the church was the all-important institution. The minister was, to all intents and purposes, a town-officer, since he was supported by the people at large and not by a particular congregation. What the town did, the church did also; and when the church acted, it was as if the inhabitants had met and voted in town meeting. Indeed the annual gatherings of the inhabitants were usually made to serve parish purposes.

What is true of the first period of Saco's history gains an added significance in the discussion of the second, since it was owing to a division of the Biddeford parish that Saco was separated from the settlement on the western bank of the river and became, in time, a township by itself. Before proceed-

\*It is perhaps unnecessary to add that the settlers did not ride to church in carriages. Even the 'one horse shay' was unknown in the early days. The records for 1674 indicate that at that time not more than seven horses were owned in town.

ing to an account of that event some minor occurrences deserve recognition.

At the reorganization of the town under the name of Biddeford, in 1718, the Rev. Matthew Short was preaching at Winter Harbor. He continued as town clergyman and chaplain of Fort Mary until sometime about 1723, when he was succeeded by the Rev. John Eveleth, who divided his time between Arundel (now Kennebunk Port) and Biddeford. In 1727, Eveleth was succeeded by the Rev. Marston Cabot who remained two years. One John Moody was preaching to the town in 1729. He was a young man, not yet fully educated, and declined to settle "by reason he was too young and wanted further acquaintance of learning at some college." In January, 1730, the town voted to call Rev. Samuel Willard and to allow him a salary of £110 and "the strangers' contribution." He was also to have "a parsonage house, together with the benefit and improvement of 100 acres of parsonage land." The offer was accepted and Mr. Willard was ordained on Wednesday, September 30, 1730. Shortly before the event the *First Church in Biddeford* was gathered, the members being: John Gray, Samuel Jordan, Humphrey Scamman, Ebenezer Hill, John Sharpe, Pendleton Fletcher, Benjamin Haley, Thomas Gilpatrick, Samuel Hinckley, Benjamin Hilton, John Tarr, Robert Whipple, Mark Shepherd. There is no record of a duly organized Congregational church in town before this date, although one may have existed in Seth Fletcher's time.

The ministry of Samuel Willard was terminated by his death, in October, 1741. His successor was the Rev. Moses Morrill who was ordained September 29, 1742. Morrill was then only twenty years old, having graduated from Harvard in 1737, at the age of fifteen. He came to Biddeford glowing, no doubt, with youthful enthusiasm and anxious to improve his pastoral charge by the exercise of all the means in his power. The church soon showed the influence of his advanced ideas. The first innovation came in the singing. Up to this time, the

"Psalms of David" had been the only hymns used by the congregation. *Watts' Hymns* were now introduced, to be employed, on sundry particular occasions, "at the discretion of the Pastor." Morrill also attempted something in the way of a revival. Whitefield, the great exhorter, was creating a new epoch in the religious life of many New England towns by his fervent preaching. The Biddeford pastor was heartily in sympathy with the movement, though some ministers then, as now, did not approve it, and in March, 1745, Whitefield came to Biddeford and preached several times. The people do not seem to have liked his method, for a diary of the time says that he met with considerable opposition.

It was during Parson Morrill's ministry that the settlers on the eastern side of the river were set off as a distinct parish. The circumstances of the separation are briefly these: At a town meeting, held in March, 1752, the majority voted to build a new meeting house on the western side of the river. This action was not to the mind of the inhabitants on the east side. They speedily entered their dissent, and in April, following, had the satisfaction of being set off as a parish by themselves.\* This action entailed the building of a meeting house on the eastern side, for a parish without a place of worship would be an unheard-of anomaly. Accordingly, the people of the Saco district bestirred themselves and set about obtaining a lot of land upon which to erect their new church.

At this juncture, all thoughts turned to Sir William Pepperrell, whose 5500 acres of Saco land included many a goodly building site. The baronet was consulted; he agreed to sell a suitable lot of two acres area; accepted the purchase money;

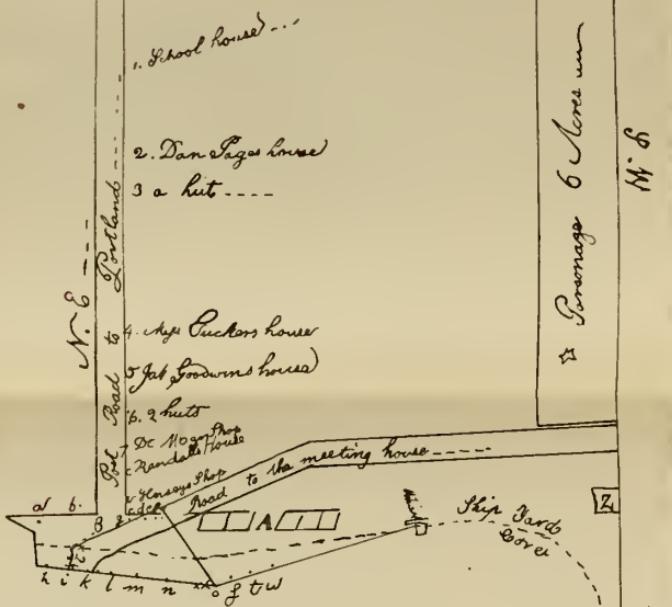
\*The church on the western side was built in due time by the original parish. It was large enough to seat 800—1000 people: two stories high; with galleries; sounding-board; and in all other details constructed after the stereotyped model of New England 'meeting-houses.' It was torn down in 184— and a neat house built of its materials. It is said that the Old South church in Boston contains a chandelier sent from Biddeford in Old England to Biddeford in N. E., which was somehow detained in Boston.—J. W. Thornton.

Burton Green

Road to River Ferry - - -

S. E. - - -

opposite side of road to



a - - Col. Scamman's house

b - - Assembly house - - -

c - - Coffey's Store - - -

d - - Ronald's Store - - -

e - - Kelly's Shop - - -

f - - Old house - - -

g - - Finnick's house - - -

h - - Fox & Cutt's house - - -

i - - Sho's Shore - - -

j - - Daniel Cleaves's house

k - - Fernall's Shop - - -

m - - Two houses 1 story - - -

n - - D. Warren's house - - -

p - - Pike's Shop - - -

q - - Nath. Hendrick's house - - -

r - - Jno. Scamman's house & shop - - -

s - - Local Pike's house - - -

t - - D. Rod - - -

u - - Cleaves's House 1 story - - -

A - - Occupied by the Peter 3/4 Rods by 4

Z - - + acres owned by Col. Cutt, 3 Rods by 5

\* - - - meeting house

J - - From G. Tucker's to

Q to - - 2 Inclined steps - - -

X - - - Saw mill - - -

- On Back -

The within Plan is  
made from an actual  
measurement of the Lands  
by Chain men under oath  
in 1798 & 1799 -

By Partridge Richardson Surveyor.

R - - - - - Channel Pleasurey Shore  
 6 - - - - - Jernalls Shop - -

Two hours! Story -

4 - - - - D. Harris' house

$\mu = -\text{Ricci Shap}$

82 - - - - - Oak Windmill house

----- Give it am more house & prop.

W. - - - - - Green's House Story.

A. Occupied by the Upper 3 $\frac{1}{4}$  Rods by 4.  
B. f Acres owned by Bob Butts, Roads Cr.

\* - - - making house

L'Academie

obliges for leg

-5541A 8641 w

whole from an actual  
admission of the  
Englishmen were under a

- On Back -

- Ein Buch -

and then, when he wrote the deed, generously gave the parish four acres more. The original document, by which he conveyed the tract to the Saco parish, may be seen at the York Institute. A copy made from the Pepperrellboro' records (I. pp 21-2) follows:

*Deed of Sir William Pepperrell to Pepperrellborough.*

To all People to whom these Presents shall come. Know ye that I Sir William Pepperrell of Kittry in the County of York Baronet, for & in consideration of the Inhabitants of the east side of Saco river building a Meeting house for the public worship of God and their settling an orthodox minister in the Congregational way and manner as by a law of this Province established, and for a burying place, and for setting up a Schoolhouse, and for no other use or end whatsoever, the said Sir William doth by these presents give, grant, bargain and confirm for the use aforesd. four acres of land as hereafter bounded, and two acres more for which I have received in full for from Robert Gray of Biddeford in said County of York, Yeoman, the whole six acres is bounded, vizi. beginning next to said Gray's land by the present highway and runs from thence by the said highway about northwest twelve rods, & from thence northeast eighty rods, and from thence twelve rods to said Gray's land, and by the said Gray's land southwest to the first beginning. And the said Inhabitants at their own cost and charge are forever hereafter to keep up and maintain and support at their own cost & charge a good and lawful fence all round every part of said land and upon this and the aforesaid considerations, the said lands is to have and to hold unto the Inhabitants of the east side of Saco river, within the said town of Biddeford and their heirs and successors for the aforesaid, and for no other use whatsoever from henceforth forward forever.

The unpaid for four acres, mentioned in this deed, constitute the only land ever given by a Pepperrell to the town of Saco, of which any record has been preserved. The whole strip, including the two acres for which Pepperrell received compensation, is designated on early plans as the *Parsonage Land*. It consists of a strip, twelve rods wide and eighty rods long, on the easterly side of what is now Pepperell Park, extending from that corner of the city property opposite Gray's Court, to Beach street, and including the site of the old high school. The

remaining nine acres of the park were not given to Saco by any member of the Pepperrell family, despite deep-rooted popular opinion to the contrary.

The new meeting house was erected on the parsonage land between the years 1752 and 1757. The building was not finished in 1754, but was probably completed soon after that date. The house stood very nearly on the site of the old high school house. It was a plain wooden building, with ordinary pitch roof, and without a spire. In 1826, it still remained, in a dilapidated condition, and was a source of superstitious terror to the small boys of the vicinity, who used to creep to its weatherbeaten sides, and gaze in, through the cracks, at the curious pulpit, whose desk, eight or ten feet above the floor, was reached by winding stairs painted white.\*

One more event in the ecclesiastical history of Saco and Biddeford claims attention. Hon. Samuel Holden Esq., of London, was a wealthy dissenter, noted in New England for his missionary and charitable labors. This gentleman sent to a Dr. Colman of Boston, thirty-nine sets of *Baxter's Practical Works* for distribution among the churches. One set of four massive volumes was sent to Biddeford and, in 1754, the church appointed a committee to look after the gift. This committee, as well as succeeding ones, did its duty, for one of the ponderous tomes now reposes on the shelves of the York Institute. The volume is in tolerably good preservation, considering its age and use, and still shows 998 legible pages printed in double columns.

\*As the old church fell to pieces it furnished the poor of the vicinity with abundant firewood.

## CHAPTER VIII.

PEPPERRELLBOROUGH 1762—1790.

THE division of the Biddeford parish was the first step toward a separate incorporation of the eastern half of the town. It was a sign of the times and it must have been evident to many then, as it is now plain to all, that independence in municipal, as well as in church affairs, would eventually be the demand of the inhabitants on the east side of the river.

The change came ten years after the setting off of the eastern parish. In April, 1762, the town of Biddeford voted that the inhabitants on the east side of the river "should be a separate district for the purpose of transacting the necessary public affairs of a community." A request was forthwith made of the General Court, "assembled this 26th day of May, 1762," that "they would invest said inhabitants with the powers and privileges of a district agreeable to the vote of said town," the memorialists further announcing their intention "of inviting an ingenuous & orthodox young gentleman [Rev. John Fairfield] to settle over them in the gospel ministry, who was also well affected among their brethren on the west side of the River in Said town of Biddeford and in high esteem with the Rev. Mr. Morrill their then venerable pastor."

The petition is dated Biddeford, May 20, 1762, and bears the following signatures:

Tristram Jordan.	Robert Edgecomb.
John Googins.	Wm. Jameson.
Gershom Billings.	Richard Berry.
James Gray.	Jos. Libby.
Robert Patterson, Jr.	Saml. Seamman.

Amos Chase.	Thomas Cutts.
Benj. Jellison.	John Mains.
James Dalton.	Ezra Davis.
Robt. Patterson.	Eben'r. Ayer.
James McLellan.	Samuel Dennett.
John Patterson.	

In response to this petition, the General Court passed a bill June 8, 1762, incorporating "the lands in the Town of Biddeford, lying on the East side of Saco River, in the County of York, together with an Island in the said River, commonly called and known by the name of Indian Island," as a "separate and distinct District by the name of Pepperrellborough." Rishworth Jordan was "empowered to issue his warrant to some principal inhabitant of said District, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants of said District, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at such time and place as should be therein set forth, to choose all such officers as should be necessary to manage the affairs of said District."

The first town meeting in Pepperrellborough—or Pepperrellboro', as it was often spelled—was held in July, 1762, when Tristram Jordan, Amos Chase and Robert Patterson, Jr., were chosen selectmen. Of these men, all are familiar, in name at least, to the present generation. The Patterson family is famous for the longevity of its members. The first Robert Patterson settled on Rendezvous Point in 1729. He died in 1769, aged ninety-seven years. His son, Robert, lived to be eighty-four. Another son died at the age of seventy, but the average was maintained by a daughter who died in 1802 at the ripe old age of ninety-two.

### *Amos Chase.*

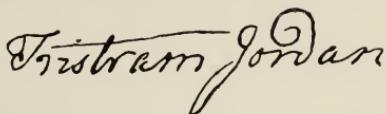
Amos Chase attempted to settle in Buxton in 1741, but the war of 1744 caused him to return to his former home at Newbury. He came to Biddeford in 1753 and located on the



On the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 1762 -  
a Church was gathered in Pepperell  
borough, that being a day set apart  
by the Inhabitants thereof as a  
day of Fasting & Prayer upon that  
solemn & important Occasion. -  
The Members of which are as follows

{ John Fairfield.  
Robert Patterson.  
Robert Edgcomb.  
Samuel Banks.  
Magnus Riddlin.  
Thomas Edgcomb.  
Tristram Jordan.  
Amos Chase  
Robert Patterson jun.  
Andrew Bradford  
Ephraim Billings

eastern side, at the ferry, having purchased a portion of Captain Scamman's estate in that vicinity. He kept the ferry several years, but finally removed, in 1763, to his well-known home-stead on the Ferry road about two miles from the sea. The magnificent elms which have grown from the small trees he set out at that time are dear to every citizen. Mr. Chase was one of the first deacons of the Pepperrellboro' church. He is still further remembered as the first man to drive a chaise from Kennebunk to Saco.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tristram Jordan".

Tristram Jordan, third son of Captain Samuel Jordan, was one of the first merchants on the east side of the river, and one of the ablest and most popular young men in town. He was elected selectman of Biddeford in 1754, when but twenty-three years of age. He was commissioned as a captain in the militia about the same time, and was "in the first Regiment whereof Sir Willain Pepperrell was Colonel."

In the hands of these men the civil affairs of Pepperrellboro' were certain to be discreetly managed. It remained to complete the organization by the formation of the town church to be presided over by the town minister. The Rev. John Fairfield had been preaching in the church on the east side since August, 1761, on a temporary engagement. In August, 1762, the inhabitants voted to ask him to make a permanent settlement. Mr. Fairfield accepted; a church society was organized October 13; and on the 27th of the same month the young pastor was ordained. The relation thus entered upon was destined to continue for many years.

The history of Pepperrellboro', up to the beginning of the Revolution, is uneventful. The inhabitants met in town meeting, from year to year, chose selectmen, tything men, and other officers; voted to raise the necessary money to defray the expenses

of the district, usually about £140; instituted schools; located roads; took care that the harbor was not caused to deteriorate through ballast of vessels "thrown into the same;" and reimbursed the Rev. John Fairfield for providing his own firewood. Beyond these domestic concerns and similar ones the records do not go.

The people of York County early became fully aroused against the tyranny of Great Britain. News of the throwing overboard of the tea at the Boston wharves soon reached the settlements to the eastward and when, shortly after, a vessel, laden with tea, sailed into the harbor at York, the people hastily called a meeting and discussed what was best to be done. The captain was finally allowed to land his cargo, but, by a strange coincidence, some Pickwaket Indians came to the town that night and in the morning the tea was gone.

The patriotic spirit manifested at York was common to the whole county. On July 30, 1774, the inhabitants of Biddeford adopted the following resolutions drawn up, it is supposed, by James Sullivan :\*

"1st. Whereas the Parliament of Great Britain has for the Express purpose of raising a Revenue, and an Unconstitutional Tax, on the English American Colonies, made Several Acts highly Distressing to said Colonies in General and this Province in Particular; by which Acts the Metropolis of this Province is Blocked up and distressed; the Civil Government of the Province Altered (as far as by said Act it can be) in the most Material and privileged Points thereof; and particularly the Invaluable Right of a Trial by an uncorrupted Jury Intirely Destroyed:

2d. Therefore Resolved, that the Inhabitants of this Town now Assembled will in a Resolute, Manly and determined manner, pursue all such Legal and Constitutional methods as shall by the other Towns in this Province be thought Conducive to the restoration of our Natural Rights as Men and our Political Rights as Englishmen, and that no Inconvenience however Injurious to the private Interest

\*James Sullivan, sometime Judge of the Supreme Court and Governor of the Commonwealth, opened a law-office in Biddeford in 1769. He was a man of rare attainments and was much respected by the people of the town. He removed to Groton, Massachusetts, in 1776.

of any of us, shall be a Sufficient cause to break this Resolution: And whereas the Committee of Correspondence for the Town of Boston has Transmitted to us Papers to be Signed by the Inhabitants of this Town, which Papers contain certain Covenant Oaths and Agreements that the Subscribers thereto Shall break off all Commercial Intercourse with the Island of Great Britain until the Oppressive Acts aforesaid are totally repealed; and the Inhabitants of this Town being very Sensible that there is no Method yet Pointed out which tends so much to the advancing the Opulence of this Country and happy Extrication of it from its present difficulties and Distress as the Universal Coming into and the Religious Observation of those Covenant Oaths and Agreement, or Others Somewhat Similar thereto:

3d. It is Therefore Resolved that if the Committee appointed by the late Honourable House of Representatives of this Province to meet the Delegates of the other Colonies in General Congress at Philadelphia or Elsewhere, And the other Members of said Congress, shall Advise to a Universal Withdrawment of our Commerce with the Island of Great Britain until the aforesaid Oppressive Acts of Parliament shall be Repealed, we will strictly Adhere thereto, And as our Dependence under God is chiefly placed in the Steady pursuance of such wise Measures as Shall be Recommended by the Congress—

We Therefore Resolve that whatever Measure shall be by said Congress Advised to and Complied with by the Majority of the other Towns in this Province shall be Literally and Strictly adhered to by us—

And, we further Resolve that if any Person among us shall Demean himself Contrary to any Plan that shall be Laid for our Deliverance by the Congress and agreed to by this and the Majority of the other Towns in the Province, we will have no Society, Trade or Commerce with such Person, But will Esteem and Treat him as an Enemy to his Country.—"

These resolutions, like many others of a similar trend, were the fruit of the great system of correspondence put into operation by Samuel Adams. The plan urged by this statesman and adopted by the colonies, was for the patriotic citizens in each town, or district, to hold meetings and choose Committees of Correspondence whose duty it should be to communicate with representatives deputed in the same way by other towns,

and, thus, by an interchange and comparison of opinion secure what the cause of the colonies most needed—concerted action. The committee at Boston, mentioned above, was very active. It sent out political matter, kept in constant touch with the other committees in the province, and throughout the period when the Revolution was brewing, did much to cement the comparatively isolated patriots into a well-organized party. Many of the smaller towns were tardy in appreciating the importance of the movement but in the end its pertinency was universally recognized.

There was no Committee of Correspondence in Biddeford at the time when the foregoing resolutions were formulated, but one was chosen in December (22) of the same year. Pepperrellboro' had such a committee as early as November ninth. It consisted of Tristram Jordan, Amos Chase, Paul Junkins, James Foss, and James Seaman. Thereafter, until the close of the War, the town was never without this invaluable council.

But town action was not sufficient—some more general expression of sentiment was deemed necessary and notice was accordingly given of a “County Congress” to be held at Wells, on November 15th and 16th, 1774. Thomas Cutts, Esqr. and Paul Junkins were chosen delegates from Pepperrellboro'.

The convention met as agreed and drew up a set of resolutions, which declared the right of the people to tax themselves but recommended peaceful resistance. The most interesting resolve is that referring to William Pepperrell:

“Whereas William Pepperrell, Baronet, in his lifetime honestly acquired a large estate, and gave the highest evidence, not only of being a sincere friend to the rights of man in general, but having a fraternal love to this country in particular, and whereas his son William, to whom his estate was devised, hath, with purpose to carry into effect acts of the British Parliament made with the design to enslave the free and loyal people of this continent, accepted and now holds a seat at the pretended Board of Councilors in this Province, and

therefore forfeited confidence, it is recommended to the people and his lessees to withdraw all connexion, commerce, and dealings with him, and to take no leases of his farms or mills; and if anybody does deal with him, we recommend the people to have no dealings or intercourse with such an one."\*

The Pepperrellboro' members of the "County Congress" reported to the inhabitants and a committee, chosen by the same town-meeting that voted to send the delegates, saw "the several Resolves of the Provincial and County Congress, complied with in said Pepperrellboro'." The men delegated to this duty were some of the most respected and influential in the town: T. Jordan, Esq., Deacon Amos Chase, Robert Patterson, Deacon S. Seaman, Joseph Libby, Humphrey Pike and Dominicus Seaman. The entire incident of the Congress, its apparently harmonious action, and the means taken to carry its resolves into effect, reflect the temper of the hour and bear witness to the bitter feeling among the people against Pepperrell and his Tory associates.

In 1775, Pepperrellboro' united with Biddeford in defraying the expenses of James Sullivan as delegate to the Provincial Congress. The greatest unanimity seems to have existed between the two towns at this time. Petty jealousies, if any had arisen, were forgotten in the excitement of the hour, and all good citizens devoted their energies to the service of the country.

The people of Pepperrellboro' assembled in town-meeting in March, 1775, feeling that war was upon them, and voted "to divide the Militia Company \* \* \* into four separate squadrons to exercise half a day, and once in every week, for three months to come, and to begin their Exercises at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and to have a teacher to learn them the military art, and said teacher to be paid out of the District treasury; one part to be at the Old Orchard, so-called; another to be

\*William Pepperrell here mentioned was not the son of Sir William, but his grand-son, William Pepperrell Sparhawk, to whom the baronet had devised his property.

from Rumery's to the lower ferry; another from said Rumery's up to the head of said District\* and the other part at Duns-town so-called."

During the ensuing years of the Revolution, occasional entries in the town records shed passing gleams of light on the attitude of the people. In 1779, the inhabitants agreed to reinforce the Continental Army and voted to raise the men by a draft. When any man was drafted and 'paid his fine' the money thus obtained was to be employed in hiring men for the service. The selectmen were also empowered to levy taxes, 'sufficient to pay what should be wanting to pay the full hire of those men who should agree to go into the Continental service for the town of Pepperrellborough.' In 1781, it was voted "to raise £350 for the men raised to go to Camden, if they go, otherwise to be paid to the treasurer for the town service." That same year, Samuel Boothby and James Coffin were appointed "a committee to hire six or seven men as soldiers for the army on the town's account, and not to exceed \$13 with the continental pay, per month."

Each town in the Province was obliged to provide its proportionate part of beef for the army. The methods resorted to in Pepperrellboro' to raise the necessary amount of provisions frequently find mention in the records. Thus, at a town-meeting held on Thursday, July 12, 1781, it was: "Voted to Raise by a Tax one hundred & Thirty pounds in hard money or Equivalent in Paper to Purchase the Towns Quota of Beef for ye Continental Army." The distinction here made between hard money and paper currency well illustrates the depreciation of the Continental bills which at this time had greatly deteriorated in value.

The exact number of men furnished to the Continental Army by Pepperrellboro' is uncertain; but a large proportion of the inhabitants were at various times, engaged in service. The only officer of high rank, on active duty, of whom the town

\*District in all cases means in modern parlance—town.

can boast was Colonel James Scamman who lead a regiment to Cambridge early in 1775, and remained about a year. There is no record that his command was involved in any serious battles.

In naval affairs the townspeople were comparatively inactive. A few privateers were fitted out from the Saco River and some prizes of small value were taken by them, but their cruises were in general unsuccessful. It is interesting to note, however, that the only encounter with the enemy in the vicinity of the Saco River (except the destruction of Falmouth) was a maritime skirmish at Cape Porpoise. On August 8, 1782, about a year before the treaty of peace was ratified, an English brig of eighteen guns sailed into Cape Porpoise harbor, accompanied by a schooner of ten guns, and captured a schooner and a sloop belonging to a man named Newbury. The schooner was taken away, but the sloop, having run aground, was abandoned and burned.

While the English vessel was lying in the harbor, Samuel Wildes, who was partially deranged, put off from shore in a canoe, and paddling within earshot of the enemy called to them and ordered them to give up the schooner. The British officers laughed at this sally and amused themselves, for a time, by making sport of their solitary foe. Finally, they tired of pleasantry and ordered Wildes on board the brig and upon his refusing to comply with the command, opened fire with muskets wounding him in several places.

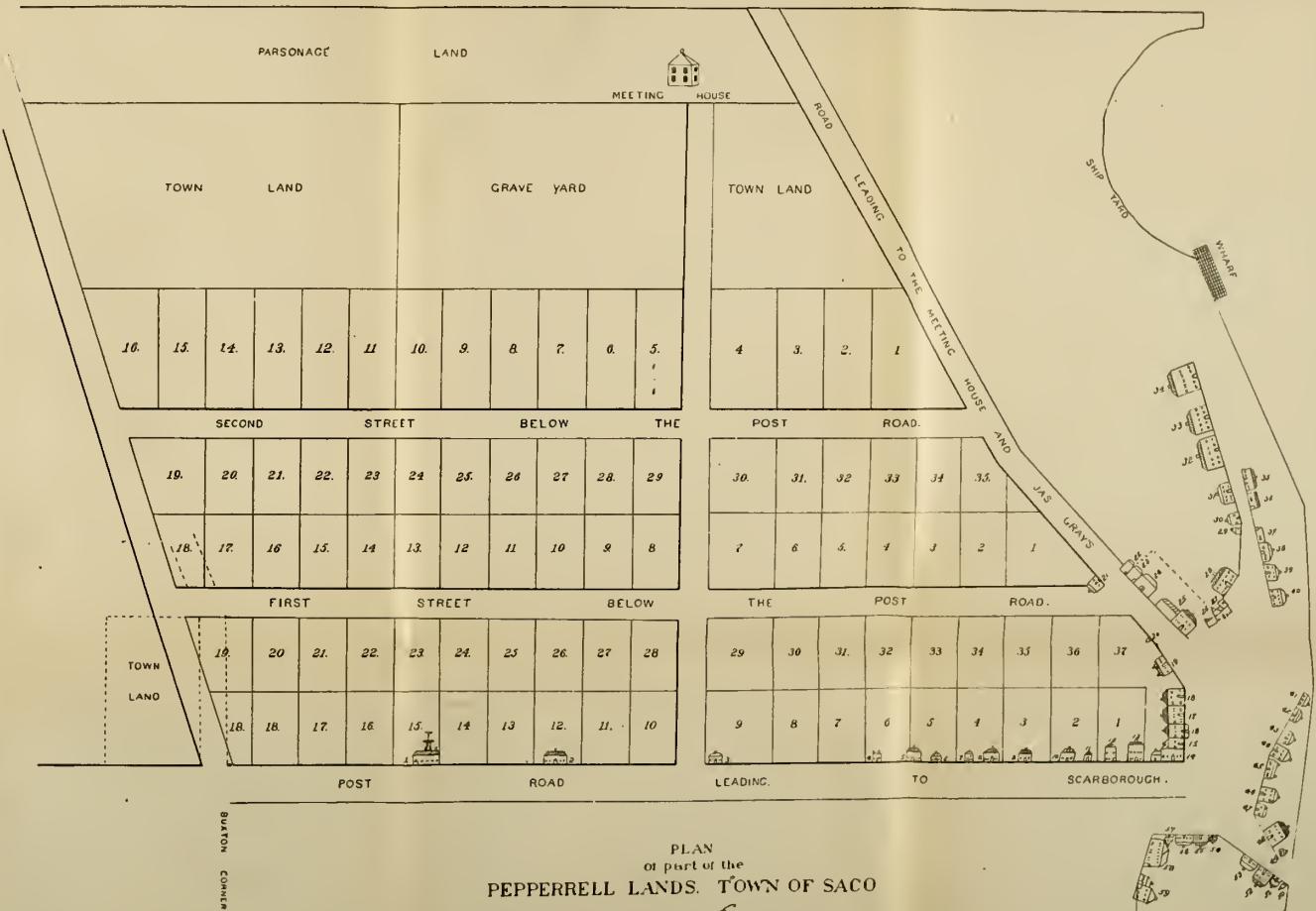
Meantime, the inhabitants of the town had assembled and now, in defiance of showers of grape from the English vessel, a detachment crossed from Trott's Island to Goat Island, near which the brig was riding at anchor. The English captain despatched a boat-load of armed sailors to dislodge the little company of townsmen who had ensconced themselves behind some rocks; but so deadly a fire issued from the muskets of the Americans that sixteen or seventeen of the men in the boat were killed and only one is said to have lived to clamber up the vessel's side.

Two pieces of cannon had been hurried to Trott's Island and these so annoyed the enemy that the crew of the brig began to warp her out of the harbor. Although once aground the British at length succeeded in putting to sea and were soon out of sight. The engagement was almost a victory for the home guard which lost but one man.

Beyond this brisk skirmish at Cape Porpoise, the inhabitants of Pepperrellboro' and vicinity were exempt from attacks by the English. Neither were they seriously troubled by internal dissensions. So far as known, only three persons in Pepperrellboro' and Biddeford sympathized with the Tories. One of these, Capt. Philip Goldthwaite, placed himself under British protection at the outbreak of the War. The others, Dr. Abia-thar Alden and Capt. John Stackpole, were made to recant before a crowd which had gathered in Pepperrellboro', on a certain day, from all the country round. Alden, who was the chief offender, was compelled to sign a paper which contained a confession of his treason and an abject apology for it, and then was obliged to get down on his knees and ask the pardon of the whole assemblage for offending the people. The proceedings on this occasion were of an orderly character and were approved by the majority.

No other important details of the War have come down to us. The last Committee of Correspondence was chosen in 1782 and consisted of Col. James Scamman, Capt. Joseph Bradbury, Lieut. Samuel Chase, Lieut. William Cole, and James Coffin. In 1783 peace was declared and the towns-people turned their attention once more to affairs of commerce and government.

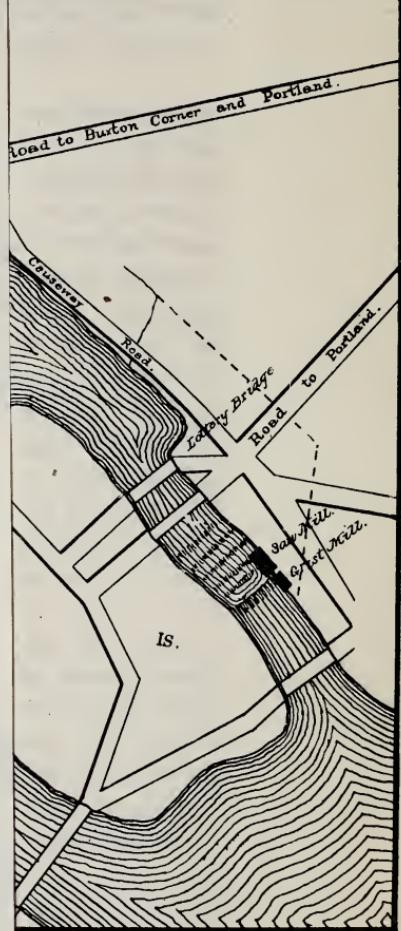
The first election of state officers in Massachusetts occurred September 4, 1780. John Hancock was chosen governor, Pepperrellboro' giving him seven votes against three for James Bowdoin. Hancock's popularity increased as he continued to hold office. In 1781, the town vote was—for Hancock, twenty-seven, for Bowdoin, two; and in 1782-3, the inhabitants were unanimous in his favor.



PLAN  
 of part of the  
 PEPPERRELL LANDS. TOWN OF SACO

*J. Brown McMillan Surveyor*  
 1800

LINE



The people seem, thus, to have been well satisfied with the practical administration of the state government. At the same time the longing for local independence was strong and there was a growing discontent with the rule of the District by Massachusetts. In 1785 the uneasiness had grown so general that a convention met at Falmouth (now Portland) to consider the question of a separation. This conference was held October 5th. Massachusetts expressed herself as strongly opposed to such action but her protest was not heeded, and the convention reassembled January 4, 1786, more in earnest than ever. The times, however, were not ripe for the change and although a report of the doings of the convention was circulated among the towns of the District, the project was temporarily abandoned. The incident is chiefly interesting because it shows that the seeds of the agitation which culminated in the admission of Maine in 1820 were sown many years before that event.\*

The year 1785 was marked by a great freshet which carried away both the Lottery bridge, on the east side of the river, and the Cutts bridge on the western branch from Indian Island to the Biddeford bank. Col. Cutts immediately rebuilt his bridge. February 16, 1786, the inhabitants of the town of Pepperrellboro' voted "to assist in Building a Bridge across the Stream on the east side of Indian Island," and to raise £100, to be paid in lumber, at the market price, 'to those persons who would undertake to build said bridge and obligate to build it by a certain time.' Colonel Cutts took the contract and constructed a bridge which stood for twenty years. Main street was straightened and the new bridge was erected where the present iron one crosses the river.

Colonel Thomas Cutts was, at this time, at the height of his prosperity. This gentleman came to Biddeford about 1758

\*In 1791, the question of separation from Massachusetts came up again and on May 10 of that year the inhabitants of Pepperrellboro' voted against the division 44-6.

with a capital of \$100 loaned him by his father, Richard Cutt\* of Cutt's Island, Kittery. In the summer of 1759, he purchased a portion of Indian Island, the whole of which he ultimately owned, and built thereon a small house with conveniences for a store. Here he carried on business for many years. At the time of his settlement upon it Indian Island was uninhabited, except at the fishing season, when wandering bands of Indians made it their temporary abode.

The location selected by Cutts was central. He soon reaped its advantages and became, in a few years, one of the most prominent merchants in Maine. Aside from his local trade, he engaged in shipping. Although his enterprises were, in general, undertaken with a view to the advancement of personal ends, the commercial activity he created was of great advantage to Pepperrellboro' and materially increased its prosperity.

Looking back upon the scene of industry presented by Cutts and his contemporaries, it is difficult to picture the town in its actual wild state. Pepperrellboro' had scarcely emerged from the category of frontier towns, as is illustrated by the fact that, in 1786, a bounty was offered on wolves, the price paid being 30s. for a full grown animal and 15s. for whelps. In 1787, the nuisance remained unabated and the reward was increased from 30s. to 40s. for every wolf killed within the town limits.

Game was much more plenty then than now. Salmon frequented the river in considerable numbers and were taken by wholesale until it was found necessary to protect the fisheries by law. It is refreshing to note that the law was enforced. April 4, 1791, the town voted "that Capt. Wm. Cole and Ensign John Cleaves should receive £17, 15, 4 out of the town Treasurer for their Expence in Carrying on a Law Suit against Phineas McIntyre in behalf of the town Respecting the Salmon fishery."

The first United States census was taken in 1790. York

\*The name was originally spelled without the final 's.' Thomas Cutts himself used the old form many years.



McCulloch



County, at that time, had 28,821 inhabitants of whom 1,352 resided in Pepperrellboro'. The increase of the town population from that time on was quite rapid. Thus for 1800 the figures are 1,842; for 1810, 2,492; for 1820, 2,532. Biddeford was considerably smaller.

## CHAPTER IX.

PEPPERRELLBOROUGH 1790—1800.

FROM the year 1790 on, the history of Pepperrellboro' is full of interest. The town was small, but its citizens were enterprising and improvements came thick and fast.\*

While domestic affairs assumed this cheerful aspect there were troubles enough abroad, for at this period American commerce suffered from the aggressions of both England and France† and the ship-owners of Pepperrellboro' were among those to suffer loss. In 1794, the ship *Minerva*, Capt. Thomas Cutts, Jr., owned by Col. Thomas Cutts, was taken by a French frigate and detained for a month in the port of Brest. Capt. Cutts entered a protest which was admitted by the American Commission in 1803 and the claim liquidated by the French Council of Liquidation.

In 1799, during the hostilities between France and America, the Schooner *Aligator* of Pepperrellboro', Capt. Kendrick, thirty-one days out, bound to Antigua, was overhauled by the French privateer *Republican* and taken to Guad-

\*The progressive spirit which animated Pepperrellboro' at this period of its history is evinced by the readiness with which the inhabitants accepted and put into practice philanthropic schemes. A town-meeting was called for July 4, 1796, 'to see,' among other things, "if the Town would allow a number of Gentlemen to build a Hospital for Inoculation of the Small-pox." Permission was granted and James Coffin, Daniel Cleaves and Dr. Thomas G. Thornton were chosen to decide on a suitable site and "to oversee the same."

†These countries were engaged in war and when an English man-of-war detected an American vessel stealing into a French port with a cargo of grain it seized it and compelled it to sail to some country at peace with Great Britain; while the French privateers regarded United States merchant vessels as lawful prey and captured them wherever found.

eloupe where schooner and cargo were condemned. The ship's papers were confiscated and the men were "robbed of the best Part of their Cloaths." Upon their arrival in port the captain and crew "were obliged to gett off, for Fear of being put into Prison, with which they were threatened from the Hour of their Capture."

The trouble with England was not altogether on the high seas. The treaty of peace made in 1783 was not faithfully kept by either party. The United States failed to pay certain debts as it had promised, and, on the other hand, England still retained possession of forts along our northern frontier which she had agreed to surrender. In the midst of these embarrassments Washington sent Chief Justice John Jay to England with instructions to obtain a new treaty.

The result of this diplomatic mission was not very satisfactory to the people, who thought that the English had rather the better of the bargain. Even Washington and Jay themselves were disappointed, but they believed that the country was not then in a position to demand anything better and so the famous "Jay Treaty" was accepted. When the people came to understand matters, and found that the best that could be done had been done, they nobly encouraged the administration by the expression of their confidence :

At a town meeting of the Inhabitants of Pepperrellborough on the subject of petitioning Congress for carrying the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain into effect: was voted the following Resolves, *nemine contradicente* :—

1st. That we still retain that confidence in the firmness, wisdom and patriotism of Congress which has hitherto influenced us to remain silent though observing spectators of their debates and decisions, that though originally we thought the Treaty with Britain was injurious to the true interest of the United States; yet we refrained from ever petitioning the President to withhold his signature, least our conduct might be construed into an hostile disposition to the constituted authorities of our country, or a disrespect for the President.

2nd. \* \* \* \* \* —————

3rd. That we will chearfully pay our full proportion to indemnify those who have suffered by British depredations should the wisdom of Congress think fit to appropriate any sum for that purpose.

4th. \* \* \* \* \*

5th. That we are determined (should the present state of affairs eventually lead to a war; should the indignities offered our Republic by the unreasonable conduct of Britain prompt our Government to demand a redress of grievances;) to pledge ourselves with our lives and properties to support the Liberty and Independence of the United States.

Pepperrellboro' May 2d, 1796.

On the 4th of July, 1797, when the United States entered upon the 23d year of national independence there was a grand celebration of the event at Saco Falls by the inhabitants of Biddeford and Pepperrellboro', when the citizens gave still further proof of their public spirit. At high noon on that day the people gathered and marched to the "New Meeting House" in Biddeford, in the following order:

PROCESSION.

CAPTAIN BRYANT AND COMPANY;

THE SPEAKER OF THE DAY;

THE CLERGY;

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO TOWNS;

THE COMMITTEE;

MILITARY OFFICERS;

CITIZENS.

JEREMIAH HILL, Esq., and MR. ICHABOD FAIRFIELD  
OFFICIATED AS MARSHALLS.

"Having arrived at the Meeting House, Mr. Averell, who officiated to the Society there, opened the day with a very patriotic prayer suitable to the occasion; then Mr. Cyrus King pronounced a truly American oration, well charged—after which, the Procession returned, in the same order, to the Assembly Room, where an elegant Dinner was prepared.

"Thomas G. Thornton, Esq., was chosen President; Mr.

Daniel Hooper, Vice-President. After thanking the orator of the day for his good services, and partaking of an elegant repast, the following Toasts were drank, under the discharge of sixteen cannon :

1st. *The Day*—May that valor which achieved it, be always ready to support it.

2d. *The President, Senate, and House of Representatives*—May the rays of their wisdom dissipate the clouds which envelope their political horizon.

3d. *George Washington, the Sword of Independence*—Though withdrawn from our councils may he never be from our hearts.

4th. *La Fayette*—May his sufferings endear our remembrance of his valor.

5th. *Pinckney, Marshall, Gerry*—Well done, good and faithful servants.

6th. *The National Militia*—May its spirit and discipline supercede the necessity of a standing army.

7th. *The Infant Navy of America*—May it soon be competent to protect our vessels from pirates and sea-robbers and our commerce be as extensive as the ocean which sustains it.

8th. *Annihilation to all Foreign Influence*—May the wretch who wishes the prosperity of any nation, at the expense of our own, be justly execrated by every true American.

9th. *The Sovereign People*—May their promptitude and decision in executing the laws, their union and firmness in defending this country, prove to the world their determination to support their government.

10th. *The Constitution*—May every American be ready to sacrifice life and prosperity in its defense.

11th. *Union*—The order of the day; *Friendship*—The countersign and courage, parole of every citizen.

12th. *The Friends of America*—May our justice make them, and our bravery defend them.

13th. *Agriculture*—May our soil be always tilled by freemen

watered by the showers of heaven, and an abundant increase expand our hearts in gratitude to God and love of man.

14th. *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*—May government and people, as heretofore, always be first when our country calls.

15th. *Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts*.

16th. *The Blooming Daughters of America*—May they refuse their favors to every cowardly soul who fears the frowns or would stoop to the embraces of any foreign mistress.”\*

Celebrations such as this were frequent in the old days, and their expression of lofty patriotism is apt to render the reader of history forgetful of the fact that there were political parties then, as now, and that all were not agreed as to the best method of national government.

The political parties then in existence were the *Federalists*, now the *Republicans*, and the *Anti-Federalists*, or *Republicans*, as they afterward called themselves, to whom the *Democrats* have succeeded. The *Federalists* had voted to adopt the Constitution of the United States; and the other party had voted against it. The *Federalists* believed in uniting the country under one central government; the *Anti-Federalists* advocated state rights: the middle and southern states were *Republican*; New England was *Federalist*. Washington and Hamilton were *Federalists*; Jefferson was the recognized leader of the opposition.

Strangely enough, Maine, Pepperrellboro' included, was *Republican*. In 1792-3, when Daniel Granger was teaching the village school, in a one story house on the south side of Main street, two lots east of the present School street, there were but eight ‘Fed’ votes in town.† Almost every man, from Parson Fairfield down, was a *Republican*, in token of which fact the master pinned upon each boy’s hat a bit‡ of ‘taste’ in

\*From a newspaper reproduction of the original program.

†Biddeford was *Republican*. Federal leaders were Prentiss Mellen, Jere Hill, Daniel and Noah Hooper, and Judge Rishworth Jordan.—Wingate Thornton Notes. ‡“Felt hats made by old Kelley.”—Wingate Thornton Notes.

the form of a knot of red ribbon. Seth Storer was one of Granger's pupils and sported his decoration unsuspectingly until he went away to school at Exeter, when he found that all the boys there wore the Federal black cockade.

With the town so strongly prejudiced, political excitement was not very great, for some years, but there was enough later on to make up for any previous deficiencies. In the meantime a leading Republican gave up the position of trust and responsibility which he had long held in the community. During the Revolution, and through the years of growth immediately following, John Fairfield continued to exercise the office of town minister. His term of service closed almost with the century. On April 2, 1798, "after thirty-six years of residence, perfect harmony subsisting between him and the People, he was dismissed from the work of the ministry in Pepperrellboro'."

Rev. John Fairfield was a well-balanced and accomplished gentleman. He possessed the rare combination of business ability with the qualifications of a clergyman. His church records and family account-books are monuments of accuracy and show him to have been a man who regarded the smallest detail as worthy of attention. Many of his sermons are extant, and some of them are interesting, today, not only by reason of the liberal doctrines which they inculcate, but also from the entries of local events with which they are frequently annotated. It was the custom of this method-loving clergyman to preach twice on a Sunday from the same text. The two sermons, neatly written on the diminutive sheets of the time, were securely bound, in pamphlet fashion, by means of a stout string or thread. Beginning with the first page, at the morning service, the preacher would discuss the passage chosen as far as 'thirdly,' or thereabouts, and then complete the discourse in the afternoon. The "improvement," which was the practical application of the text to the lives of his hearers, came at the end and was sometimes pointed and severe. The conclusion is usually to be found at the middle of the manuscript booklet,

often on pages of a smaller size than the rest, and is referred to on the last page proper by "see middle." Otherwise blank spaces in this final portion are uniformly occupied by a record of when and where the sermon was preached, together with such other items as the author cared to preserve. Some of these side remarks are amusing and many more are valuable from an historical point of view. From them we learn that the *Psalms of David* were sung in Parson Fairfield's church; though, in general, details of the exercises are not noted. "1772, Nov<sup>r</sup>. 8th," he wrote, "Preach'd all Day at Pepperrellboro', the Measels & chin Cough prevalent among our Children of which sundry died." The sequence of sentences in the hasty memoranda is not always such as to free the writer from charge of ambiguity. On one occasion, the congregation being small, Mr. Fairfield saw fit to shorten his remarks. This is his entry of the fact: "1797, March 5th, Preach'd all day Peppo. very thin Congr. except the first Proposition."

Mr. Fairfield was an excellent penman. His earlier sermons are in a very fine hand, the almost microscopic characters being scarcely legible to ordinary eyes, at customary reading distance. As the pastor increased in years his eyesight failed and he was compelled to increase the size of his letters. This he continued to do, year after year, the growth of his penmanship keeping pace with the weakening of his vision, until he came to compose in characters which might be read across a room. At length, his eyes gave way altogether and in his last years he was blind.

In figure, Mr. Fairfield was short and spare. He always wore small clothes and in manners conformed to the regulations of the old school. His complexion was fair (he was noted for his red cheeks) and his eyes were blue. In old age, his hair became snow-white and as he rode, or was led, about the town, attired in his flowing red cloak, the first town minister must have presented a picturesque spectacle.

## CHAPTER X.

### TOWN LANDS—AND THE USE MADE OF THEM.

SHORTLY after Parson Fairfield's retirement, the town was granted ten acres of land by the state of Massachusetts. The history of the transaction is very vague in many minds and it is here given somewhat at length in the hope that prevalent misconceptions may be rectified.

The young Sir William Pepperrell, grandson of the original baronet, at the outbreak of the Revolution, declared himself on the side of Great Britain, and throughout the struggle adhered to the cause of the crown. In view of his attitude, the General Court of Massachusetts considered itself justified in confiscating his property. This was done in 1779. A life interest in the lands was held by Lady Mary, relict of the first Sir William, and Mrs. Elizabeth Sparhawk, his daughter. In exchange for this right, the state, in 1788, transferred to Lady Mary and her daughter two-ninths in absolute property. Mrs. Sparhawk made Charles Chauncy, Esq., her agent and several lots in Saco were sold by him.

At the town meeting held April 16, 1796, it was voted to choose a committee to petition the General Court for a grant of Fifty acres of Land out of the lot by the Meeting house then rented by the Heirs of Sir William Pepperrell absentee, and the selectmen were voted to be that committee.

The petition was duly drawn up and forwarded to Boston. It reads as follows :

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Petition of the subscribers humbly sheweth: That the town of Pepperrellborough confiding in the Justice and equity of your

Honours have taken the liberty to set forth in a Petition the present disadvantages of the town;—and trusting in the generosity of the general court, that Justice will be done them, they would presume that this is the first time they ever have approached this Court with a view to obtain any favor or emolument; they would then state that the town of Pepperrellborough was originally a Proprietorship wherein no provision was made for a Parsonage:—for public Schools,—or training field:—or even a burying-ground: Part of this proprietorship was purchased by Sir William Pepperrell who made no provision of a public nature; it eventually fell into the hands of Sir William Pepperrell, *Absentee* and was confiscated to the State; the lands now owned by the State extends two miles on the Post-road which is the principal road in the town; on the road leading to the lower part of the town Eighty rods, extending on both sides of said road; this circumstance renders it impossible that the town could have progressed in Settlement in proportion to its advantages as there was in truth no suitable land for the further settlement of its Inhabitants but what was owned by the State and under such embarrassments as rendered it a risk for anyone to build thereon, in consequence of the inattention of the Proprietor or the want of Public spirit, not even a suitable place was provided for a burying-ground and the land now made use of is so extreme low and swampy as render it so unsuitable that we cannot without violating the feelings of humanity any longer use it for that purpose;—and such is the uncommon low situation of the land in this town that if we except the land which is the property of the State there is no suitable situation in or near the centre of population that is decent for a depository for the dead;—we would likewise state that at the first Settlement of the town the house of public worship was built so as to accomodate the lower part of the town (that being the only part then settled) at present the upper part of the town has settled to that degree that renders it necessary to move the Meeting house, or erect one other on the post road;—upon examination we are unable to find any situation that is proper but what falls within the bounds of the State land;—we therefore wish our situation may be taken into consideration;—the embarrassments we have been laid under by the land being thus owned; which has retarded the increase of settlement, we presume we shall no the thought impertinent if we pray that a grant may be made us of Fifty acres in a suitable place for a burying-ground; Meeting house and training-field;—this we conceive would tend even to the emolument

of the State as the advantage given the town would greatly enhance the value of the land, we ask;—we submit our petition relying on the liberality and public spirit of the Court that you do that which will relieve us from our present inconveniences and as in duty bound will ever pray.

NICHOLAS DENNETT, } Selectmen  
JAMES COFFIN, } of  
JOSEPH BRADBURY, } Pepperrellborough.

As may be seen, the needs of the town were set forth in plain terms; but for some reason or other the Court failed to act and the request was left unanswered. It may be that the demand was considered exorbitant, since the next entry in the town records concerning it is more modest. On May 19, 1797, the town representative, Joseph Morrill, was instructed to call up the town's petition for fifty acres of land and "to accept of six acres of said land provided he could not obtain more."

The Court was pleased to listen this time and on February 9, 1798, a resolve was passed providing that ten acres of the Pepperrell lands should be given to the town. June 22, 1799, David Sewall, was appointed to survey and lay out all of the confiscated Pepperrell real estate in Maine. His commission being this resolve:

June 22, 1799—Resolved that the Hon. David Sewall be a committee to obtain an accurate Survey of all the lands and other real estate that has accrued to the Commonwealth lying in the District of Maine late the property of Sir William Pepperrell and cause the same to be laid out into lots and dispose of them in such manner with such terms of credit upon good security as they shall judge meet for the interest of said Commonwealth: *first locating ten acres of said lands to the town of Pepperrellborough for the purpose of a training field and burying ground agreeably to a Resolve passed the ninth day of February 1798:* Provided the sale be by Public Auction on the premises after due notice given by publishing the same in one or more newspapers in the vicinity where the land lies. And the said committee are hereby authorized to make good and sufficient deed or deeds to any person or persons purchasing said land and inquire into all the demands the State has against any person or persons for rents due for the use of the premise and to take such measures for the collection of the same as to the said committee shall appear proper. And

the said committee are hereby further authorized and empowered to inquire into the claim or claims which any person or persons may have upon said lands or upon houses or buildings erected thereon and the same to adjust and decide in such way and manner as shall appear fit and equitable between the Commonwealth and the claimant or claimants and are required to make Report of their doings at the next session of the General Court.

The accounts of the committee were accepted February 11, 1801 and the committee was discharged. The following is a part of David Sewall's report:

The lands confiscated to the Massachusetts Commonwealth from the Estate of Sir William Pepperrell in the Town of Pepperralbo, which by the death of the widow Eliza Sparhawk, comes to the Government, are

1. Half a double Saw-mill with half the land and priveledges, thereunto belonging, this Priveledge as it is called may be 4 or 5 acres and is in common and undivided, except the particular piling place, and the parts of the mill.

2ly. The lot of land adjoining to the river and the mill priveledge in the division of Saco lauds called 80 Rods Wide, and exteading back that Wedth North East two mile, more or less to the middle line of the Patent so called. Contains about 320 acres in quantity.—*Six acres of this being a Strip 12 Rods Wide & 80 Rods long Sir William deceased, conveyed by Deed to the Inhabitants of Biddeford on the East Side of Saco River, adjoining Gray's Land (Octr. 9th 1752). Upon which the Pepperrelbo. meeting House now stands.*

There is also the claim of John Phillips, Son of John Phillips deceased to 50 acres, or more, by Virtue of a Deed (not now to be found) said, to have been given by Sir Wm. to John Phillips the Father deceased, who actually entered upon the land 50 or 60 years ago—built a house & made improvements, died upon the Premises—and the son John there resides and improves to this Day. The improvements are adjoining the Post Road, leading to Scarborough & in somewhat of an irregular form: Were He to be quieted with 50 or 60 acres, to take in his small buildings & the principal part of his improvements, and to run quite across the Lott: It might accommodate him, and be the least prejudicial to the residue. To oust him (if it were practicable) would have the appearance of injustice; as Colo. Sparhawk and others who have had the care of the lands, and had opportunities of knowing the circumstance, never molested the Father, or the Son, in the Improvement.

The Government, it is said, have granted the Town of Pepperrelborough, Ten acres which is yet unlocated—If the Ten acres were taken adjoining the Six acres it would make a Strip 20 Rods in Weadeth 80 Rods long and include the place where Colo. Cutts has built a Tomb—and be as convenient & usefull perhaps to the Town as any other part of the Tract.

3ly. The Ridlin Lot, so called, in Pepperelbo. is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of mile or more, below the mill lott—was laid out 44 Rods Wide & two mile long, or to the middle line of the Patten—a small one story house on it—Suppose 2 & 300 acres in general of an inferior quality.

The value of the land, called the mill lot will be greater or less to government, in some measure, as they may be disposed of. The land adjoining the Post Road for 80 or 100 Rods, are conveniently Situated for Lotts for Housss & Steres, and should they be sold out in lotts from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  acres It would accomodate a number of Individuals, some of whom have small buildings now standing thereon; and be within the pecuniary powers of some who could have no pretensions of purchasing the whole.

The Saw-mill & Priveledge has been esteemed very Valuable—But there are so many other mills in the Vicinity, that the Value of these are much lessened. There are several Buildings & some of Value on parts of the mill privedge—It is proble the mill & Privedge may be Worth or fetch between 80 & 90 dolls a day—There are 24 days in a mill.

The report needs no explanation. Its statements are corroborated by the Deed from the Commonwealth's Agent to the town of Pepperrellborough.

To all unto whom these presents shall come Greeting—

Whereas the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by a Resolve passed in February 1798 did grant to the town of Pepperrellborough, from the lands that to them accrued from Sir William Pepperrell, Ten Acres for the purpose of placing a meeting House and for a Training field and Burying-ground; and afterwards by a Resolve passed the 22<sup>nd</sup>. day of June 1799, did authorize the undersigned to locate the same.—Now Know ye that after viewing the said lands and their situation and advising thereon, In pursuance of the power and authority to me committed by the last mentioned Resolve, I have located One acre part of the Ten in a suitable place for erecting a Meeting-House upon the Southeast side of the Post road leading to Scarborough where

it is intersected by the road passing over the Mill-lot from Buxton corner so-called. This acre is ten rods in weadth on the Post road, commencing at the angle of intersection and continuing that wedth on the North East side of the said cross road (and to which it adjoins South Westerly) sixteen rods.—*And Nine acres the residue of the said Ten, in the Mill-lot so-called, in the form of a Parallelogram for a Burying-ground and Training field, contiguous unto and adjoining the Six Acres the Inhabitants of said Town purchased of Sir William Pepperrell now deceased, in the month of October 1752.* These Nine Acres are bounded as follows Vizt. beginning at the South Western corner of the said Six acres, at the road leading from the mill priviledge to Mr. James Gray's, from thence extending upon said Road Northwesterly Eighteen rods, then North East, or on a line parallel with the said six acres at eighteen rods distance therefrom eighty rods, then South East eighteen Rods to the North west corner of the said six acres, then South west by the Six Acres aforesaid to the beginning. These nine, with the six acres constitute a lot of thirty Rods by eighty. In Witness whereof I have set my hand and Seal the 30th. day of November Anno Domini 1799.

DAVID SEWALL.  
[Seal]

Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of us—  
Andrew McMillan Spring.

Cyrus King.  
Seth Storer.

This is the entire history of Pepperrell Park. When Saco gained possession of the land Sir William Pepperrell, Sr., had been in his grave for forty years. His immediate descendants were dead and his grandson had lost control of the property. The Park, as a whole, cannot be regarded as the gift of any member of the Pepperrell family. Two acres of it had been purchased of the original Sir William by the people of Saco; four acres more were included by him in the deed: the remaining nine acres, together with the lot upon which the Orthodox Congregationalist church stands, were assigned to the town of Pepperrellboro' by the State of Massachusetts. Of the entire tract of sixteen acres, six only came to the town directly from a Pepperrell and of those six but four were unpaid for.\*

\*The remainder of the forty rod strip on the lower side of Main street was sold in 1801 by the Agent of the Commonwealth.

The town was not slow in making use of the land granted it by the Commonwealth. A town pound was built on the meeting-house lot the year after its location by Sewall, and a new school-house, the frame of which had been raised in another place, was moved to the same spot some time in 1800—1801.\* But these were minor concerns compared with the building of the new town church which was projected in 1802 and completed in 1806. The authority for its erection was bestowed by the citizens, assembled in town-meeting, November 30th, 1802, when it was voted “that a new Meeting-house be erected for the accomodation of said town by those persons who might subscribe to build the same,” and “that it be built upon the lot reserved for a Meeting-house at the expense of those who might subscribe for the Pews.” The new edifice was intended to be a great improvement upon the old church. It was larger, being 90 feet long and 54 feet wide,† and more artistically finished, both outside and in. Yet the pride of the architect was not in the high, paneled pews or the sounding-board over the pulpit, but in the spire, which, 126 feet high, was long the wonder and the delight of the good townspeople. Many were wont to assert, that nowhere in the state was there to be found, all things considered, such a triumph of constructive skill as the Pepperrellboro' church; and, indeed, it may be conceded, that for some years after its erection, few towns in New England could boast of a more attractive or more substantial house of worship. The timbers were massive and of the best material, and so intricately framed that it was said no man could have raised it except the architect himself. As it was, but one piece could be put up at a time. Inside the church there were elaborate carvings, executed by the aid of a common pocket knife. Around three sides of the house ran the gallery, containing pews. The singing seats were in a circle behind the pulpit and above it. The desk itself stood out a little in the

\*This school-house was burned in 1814. †The old meeting-house was 54 x 40.

body of the church and over it the sounding board was suspended by means of an iron rod. There was an organ, the conventional clock was affixed to the wall, and, best of all, in the belfry swung a grand bell, given by Col. Thomas Cutts. The total cost of the building is said to have been about \$18,000.\* The dedicatory sermon was preached February 12, 1806, by Rev. Elihu Whitecomb, who had been ordained successor to Parson Fairfield, July 3d, 1799.†

The nine acre lot of town land was, at first, devoted entirely to the purposes of a training field and burial ground. As early as March 20, 1809, however, the selectmen were appointed a committee "to inquire as to the probable expense of a powder-house," and April 2, 1810, the town voted "that the selectmen build a powder-house the present year provided the expense does not exceed Seventy Dollars." The powder-house was erected on the high ground in the rear of the Unitarian church, and stood about where the park reservoir now is. It was a round, brick structure with an iron door facing west.

The next building to be located on the common property was Saco Academy.‡ This Academy was incorporated by an act of the General Court of Massachusetts, February 16th, 1811, an act of that date providing "that there be and hereby is established in the town of Saco in the County of York, an Academy for the purpose of promoting piety and virtue, and for the education of youth in such languages and in such liberal arts and sciences as the trustees shall order and provide."

One of the items in the call for a Town-meeting to be held Monday, May 6, 1811 is as follows:

"To see if said inhabitants will give to the Trustees of Saco Academy sufficient land for a situation for a building for said Academy

\*An itemized bill made in 1804 foots up \$16,542.92.—(York Inst. Papers.)

†Whitecomb's salary was fixed at \$360 and he was given \$500 to "make a settlement." The latter sum was increased by \$100 in 1800 and his salary raised \$10 per annum.

‡In 1822, Dr. Thomas G. Thornton, Marshal of Maine, gave the Academy ten shares of Saco Bank stock. It was in consequence of this gift that the name was changed to Thornton Academy.

on the north east side of the road leading to the old meeting-house, and near the Grave-Yard and also if they will contribute anything more towards said Academy."

At the meeting it was voted:

"That the interest of the town in a quarter of an acre of land heretofore granted to said town by the Commonwealth be conveyed to the Trustees of Saco Academy for the use of said Academy, on such part thereof as the selectmen shall designate, who are hereby instructed to convey the same to said Academy as aforesaid; so long as the same shall be necessary for the use of said Academy—to be located \* \* \* \* \* a few rods North west of said old Meeting house."

The school building erected on the site granted by the town is familiarly remembered by many citizens. It was opened for instruction January 4th, 1813. Of those who entered on that day as the first scholars, only one, Mrs. Elizabeth Hartley Greene, is still living.

The academy and the powder-house utilized but a small portion of the common, and so, in 1812, after the burying ground had been enclosed with a fence built by subscription, it was agreed that the remainder of the 'town and parsonage lands' should be rented "for Pasturing or Tillage," the money received therefrom to be paid into the Town Treasury. This thrifty disposition of the tract remained in favor for many years.\*

In 1814, there came an unexpected opportunity to turn a portion of the common to profit. The Commonwealth, having given the land to the town, now desired to buy back a piece of it. The action of the citizens on the request becomes entertaining when it is remembered how piteously they had begged the General Court for the grant of the land, and of how little value a large portion of it had proved to them: March 14, 1814, it was voted,—

"That the Selectmen after consulting with the town agent, if it should be thought advisable, make and execute a Deed of a small piece of land, on the western corner of the Training field, to the

\*Hence the common was called the "Town Pasture."

Commonwealth, for the purpose of erecting a Gun house thereon, and to receive such compensation therefor, as the said Selectmen and the Commonwealth by their agent may agree upon."

Satisfactory terms were arrived at and in due time the gun house was built. It was a two-storied, wooden building and stood in the extreme western corner of the common. It still exists, metamorphosed into a dwelling-house, as No. 33 High street.

These were all the buildings on the common prior to 1820. On the whole, this portion of the town land seems to have proved rather an awkward item in the town economy and the question as to what had best be done with it was never satisfactorily settled until the creation of *Pepperrell Park*.

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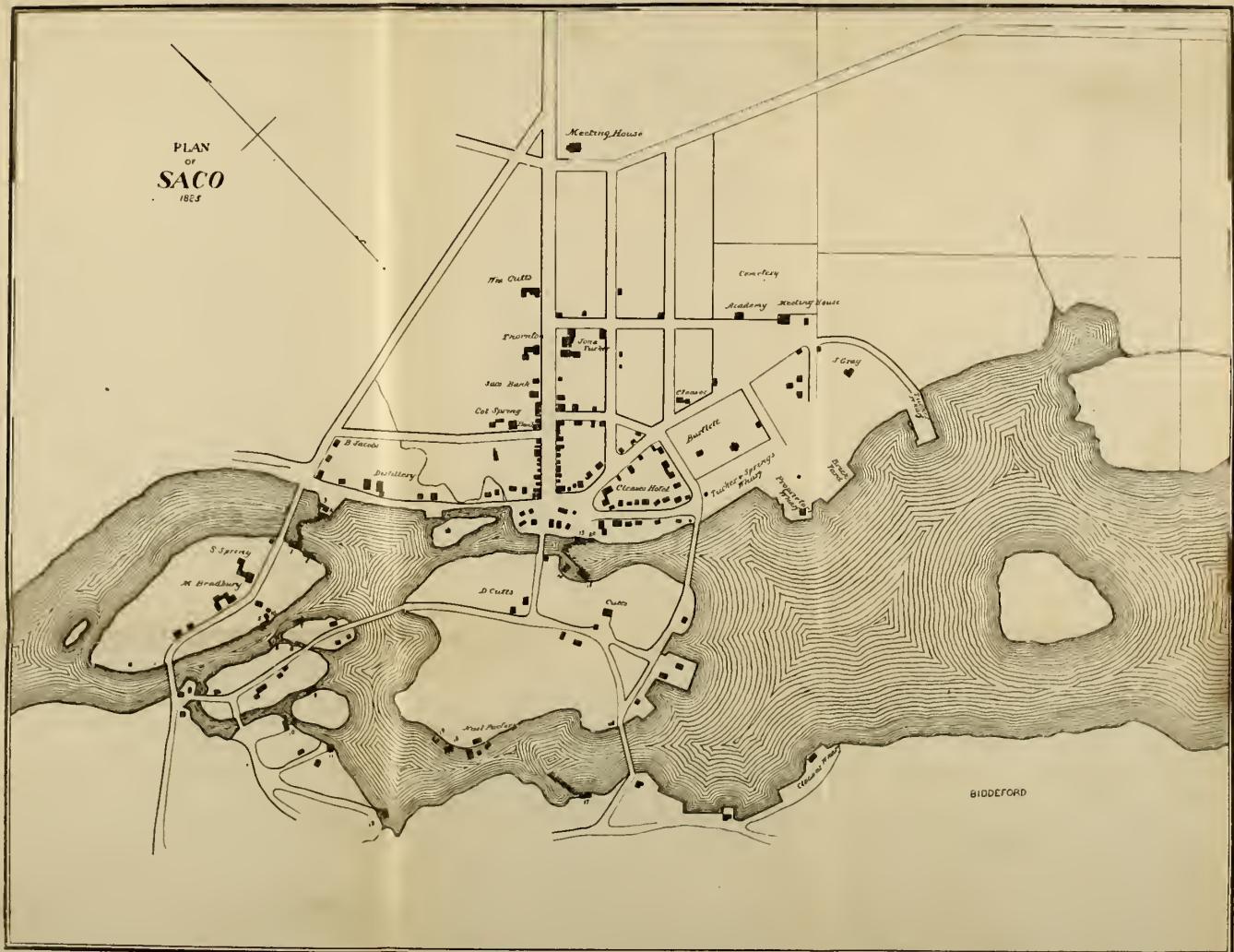
#### EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.

The original of this plan is in the office of the Secretary of State in Boston. It accompanies papers written in 1799 and 1800. A few details, including the dotted lines, are from another plan entitled: "A plan of part of the lots, as laid out and sold by David Sewall Esq. Agent of Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the town of Saco, in the year 1801, Daniel Granger, Surveyor." The dotted lines show a change made after the original allotment of the land. It is worthy of note that of three plans made about 1800 no two agree perfectly in details.

#### BUILDINGS.

1. School house.
2. Page's house.
3. Tappin's house.
4. H. Tucker's house.
5. Swaine's house.
6. Mason's house.
7. Goodwin's house.
8. Derbon's house.
9. Flood's house.
10. Byanton's house.
11. Allen's shop.
12. Randal's house.
13. Hyrsey's shop.
14. Page's shop.
15. Grainger's store.
16. Furnal's house.
17. Kelley's shop.
18. Pairse's house.
19. J. Kindrack's house.
20. Kindrack.
21. S. Kindrack's house.
22. Fairfield barn.
- 23 & 24. Cleaves' barns.
25. Cleaves' house.
26. Cooper's shop.
27. Steven's house.
28. Nason's house.
29. Goodwin's shop.
30. Potter's shop.
31. J. Cleaves' house.
32. T. Warren's house.
33. Kelly's house.
34. F. Cutts' house.
35. Wilson's.
- 36-37. Pike's shop.
38. Warren's shop.
39. Pike's house.
40. Warren's house.
41. Slaughter house.
42. Emery's house.
43. Lowil house.
44. Jameson's store.
45. Furnel's shop.
46. Cleaves & Totore.
47. Postillion's house.

PLAN  
of  
**SACO**  
1825



A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>4</sub>	A <sub>5</sub>	A <sub>6</sub>
A <sub>7</sub>	A <sub>8</sub>	A <sub>9</sub>	A <sub>10</sub>	A <sub>11</sub>	A <sub>12</sub>
A <sub>13</sub>	A <sub>14</sub>	A <sub>15</sub>	A <sub>16</sub>	A <sub>17</sub>	A <sub>18</sub>

A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>4</sub>	A <sub>5</sub>
A <sub>6</sub>	A <sub>7</sub>	A <sub>8</sub>	A <sub>9</sub>	A <sub>10</sub>
A <sub>11</sub>	A <sub>12</sub>	A <sub>13</sub>	A <sub>14</sub>	A <sub>15</sub>

TABLE

48. Cutts' store. 49. Taylor's shop. 50. Shoemaker's shop. 51. Pike's shop. 52. N. Kindrack's house. 53. J. Scamman's house. 54. Barbar's shop. 55. Page's house. 56. Tucker's house. 57. G. Stucker's shop. 58. Thornton's store. 59. Mrs. Scamman's house.

## LOTS.

*Between Post Road and First Street*—1. J. Randall 3-5; Nicholas Ham 2-5. 2. T. Brannan  $\frac{1}{2}$ , J. Allen  $\frac{1}{2}$ . 3. N. Flood, C. King. 4. J. Goodwin, F. Cutts. 5. C. King  $\frac{1}{2}$ , T. Cutts  $\frac{1}{2}$ . 6-7-8. C. King. 9. J. Tucker. 10-11. B. Pike. 12. D. Page. 13. Hopkins. 14. F. Cutts. 15-16. J. Leland. 17. Wm. Moody. 18. Spring. 19.—. 20. Granger. 21. Wm. Moody. 22-23. J. Leland. 24. F. Cutts. 25. T. Cutts. 26-27-28. B. Pike. 29. J. Tucker. 30-31-32. C. King. 33. T. Cutts. 34.—. 35. C. King. 36. J. Allen. 37. Kendrick and Cleaves.

*Between First Street and Second Street*—1. Samuel Kendrick. 2-3. Cleaves & Tucker. 4. Brannan. 5. J. Gray. 6. King. 7. J. Allen. 8. G. Tucker. 9. H. Jameson. 10. Wm. Center. 11. N. Dennett. 12. Col. Scamman. 13. Goodrich. 14. Scamman. 15-16. Shannon. 17. Cutts. 18.—. 19-20. Cutts. 21-22. Shannon. 23. Hannah Scamman. 24-25. Cutts. 26. N. Dennett. 27-28. Cutts. 29. G. Tucker. 30. Rice. 31. N. Kendrick. 32. Kelly. 33-34. Cleaves & Tucker. 35. Spring.

*Between Second Street and Town Land*—1-2-3-4. George Googins. 5. George Tucker. 6-7. Joseph Simpson. 8-9. James Scamman. 10-11. Nathl. Scamman. 12-13. John Cleaves. 14-15. Cleaves & Tucker. 16. Thos. Brannan.

## CHAPTER XI.

SACO, 1805—1812.

THE year 1805 is a salient date in local annals since it was in that year that the cumbersome name of Pepperrellborough was abandoned in favor of the briefer title of Saco.\* The old name had never been altogether out of use. The town was widely known by it and strangers often used the Indian designation as if ignorant of the legal name which had been bestowed in 1762. Thus Jesse Lee, the Methodist elder, writing of his first visit to Maine, says: “The first Methodist sermon that was preached in this province was on the tenth of September, 1793, in a little village called Saco. I put up at Dr. Fairfield’s and preached at night, in another house,† from Acts 13: 41. I had the house much crowded with attentive hearers.”

But it is not only on account of this one incident, important as that is, that the year 1805 is worthy of special remembrance. On Wednesday, August 21, 1805, was issued the first number of the first Saco newspaper. William Weeks had begun the publication of a paper at Kennebunk,‡ March 20th of this year, but finding the venture not a paying one, he moved to Saco and there established the FREEMAN’S FRIEND. The *Friend* was a sheet about eighteen inches by twenty-four in size, with four well-printed columns to the page. Beneath its name ran a motto: “*A cause like ours is its own sacrament. Truth, Justice, Reason, Love and Liberty—the eternal links that bind the world are in it.*” The prospectus stated that the paper would be printed and published on Wednesdays; that

\*The change was made by act of legislature Feb. 23, 1805. †Home of Elisha Ayer. ‡Kennebunk Gazette.

the terms would be \$2.00 a year, exclusive of postage; and that "letters and communications (Post Paid) would ever meet due attention." There were several departments, among them being "Agricultural Department," "Foreign Intelligence," and "Articles by Mail." The "Foreign Intelligence" column of the first number contains news from London dated June 12, 13, 19 and 25; Paris, June 30; Lisbon, May 15; Milan, June 8. Under the heading of "Articles by Mail" are communications from New York bearing date August 9 and 15, and from Boston, August 17. Such items would be regarded as too stale for publication by the newspaper editor of the present day. The assortment was excellent for the year 1805.

As is often the case with early town papers, the *Freeman's Friend* is almost useless, historically, because it contains so little local news. The scheme upon which the *Friend* was run seems to have been to provide subscribers with an abundance of solid reading, and its columns are a mass of clippings from other and better established periodicals upon all manner of subjects, sacred and profane. It is in the editorial column and advertising spaces alone, that light is thrown upon Saco society. In the first number the editor asserts his polities :

"The Editor's Political Creed is too well known to be concealed, too well founded to be denied. He is a REPUBLICAN—and those great principles guaranteed to us in our BILL OF RIGHTS, and established by our FEDERAL CONSTITUTION, will at all times be advocated and enforced—but he will never consider it necessary, to support a good cause, to disgrace the columns of his paper with low invective, or illiberal abuse. \* \* \* \* \*

In reviewing the respective Administrations of our National Government, we have many things to admire, few to condemn. When the chair of the Union was filled by a WASHINGTON, confidence in his measures—in his public integrity—in his wisdom, and in his private virtues, had gained its highest summit—he tried the first experiment, in administering the Federal Constitution, found it successful, and transmitted it with his blessing to his successor. The early revolutionary services of the second PRESIDENT, are more than sufficient to do away any mistakes, in his administration—and

when party feelings are deadened—when cool reflection takes place of heated resentment, and private views, we shall then render praise to whom praise is due, and the faithful, impartial page of history, will transmit to posterity, the NAMES, the VIRTUES, and the SERVICES of our earliest Revolutionary Patriots—then shall we forget *real or supposed wrongs*, and only remember that we are brethren. The amiable and enlightened CITIZEN and the able STATESMAN, who has been called by the almost united suffrages of the ELECTORS of the UNION, to the Supreme Executive of the Federal Association, is entitled to our *full confidence*, and ought to receive the united thanks of a GRATEFUL NATION—and although many a poisoned arrow has been shot at his private character—his public services traduced, and his political integrity questioned, they have fallen harmless at his feet—the slanderous assertions have passed him “like the idle wind, which he respecteth not.” So long as MR. JEFFERSON’S Administration has in view the interests of the People—so long as he makes the Federal Constitution his guide—and so long as we have so little to censure, and so much to applaud, he will receive the undiminished support of this paper.

Two advertisements taken from early numbers may prove interesting:

#### Circulating Library.

THE Subscriber informs the inhabitants of SACO, and vicinity, that it is his intention to keep a CIRCULATING LIBRARY, at his Office, in Saco—and, should such encouragement be given as will warrant it, shall make such additions to his present assortment of Books, as will render it worthy their attention. His Library contains among others, the following BOOKS,—*riz.*—

Men and Manners,	4 vols.
Tales of the Times,	2 vols.
Colley Cibbers, Dramatic Works,	5 vols.
Secrecy, or the ruin on the Rock,	3 vols.
Such Follies Are,	2 vols.
Happy Orphans,	2 vols.
Adventures of Joseph Andrews,	2 vols.
Grassilive Abby, by Ann Rattiliffe,	2 vols.
Genius, or Adventures of Don Carlos de Grandez,	2 vols.
Sealley's Tales,	2 vols.
The Friends, a Tale,	I vol.
Children's Miscellany,	1 vol.
Fedarettas,	2 vols.

Earl Strongbow.	2 vols.
Contrast,	2 vols.
Imitation of Marmontel,	1 vol.
Rash Vows, or the effects of enthusiasm,	3 vols.
Family of Ortenberg, by Kotzebue,	2 vols. in 1.
Life of Augustus Von Kotzebue,	1 vol.
Voyages of Capt. Robert Boyle,	1 vol.
Pleasing Instructor.	1 vol.
Select Plays,	3 vols.
Galatea—a Pastoral Romance,	1 vol.
Coquette, or history of Eliza Wharton,	1 vol.
Ellen Rushford,	2 vols.
Benedicta,	2 vols.
Interesting Memoirs,	2 vols. in 1.
Perfidious Guardian,	2 vols.
Repository,	2 vols.
George Barnwell,	1 vol.
Burrough's Memoirs,	second volume.

WM. WEEKS.

*Saco, 21st August, 1805.**One Cent Reward.*

**R**AN AWAY from the subscriber on the 17th instant, one indented apprentice boy by the name of AARON WASHINGTON, 17 years of age, light complexion, light hair.—Whoever will return said apprentice shall receive the above reward, and no charges paid.—All persons are forbid harboring or trusting him on my account.

JOHN CONDON.

*Saco, Oct. 23, 1805*

The *Freeman's Friend* was continued in Saco until September, 1807, when publisher and paper removed to Portland. The loss was probably not a serious one to the town. It is doubtful if the paper enjoyed much influence at any time, and its chief interest consists merely in its being the first to appear from a Saco printing office.

After the removal of Weeks, the town chronicles are uninteresting for the space of two years. It was the lull before the storm. During that brief period, Congress was doing its best to protect American commerce from British outrage without declaring war. The Republicans, who controlled legislation,

wished to pay off the old debt and did not approve of an increase in the navy, which would necessitate heavy outlays of money. Accordingly, as a short way out of the difficulty, the majority passed the Embargo Act (1807), which shut up the American merchantmen in domestic ports and thus kept them out of harm's way.

The law was so stringent that not even a fishing schooner could leave port, and everywhere in New England indignant ship-builders and ship-owners expressed their disapprobation. The discontent was furthered by political jealousies. The Federalists were greatly outnumbered in Congress and the administration was Republican, but New England still clung to the Federal cause and some of the members of the party in the northern states threatened that New England would withdraw from the Union unless something was done to relieve her merchants and that, too, speedily. It was soon evident that the policy of the Republicans was a short-sighted one, and in 1809, the Embargo Act was repealed; but not before the people of Saco had passed upon its merits.

The call for a town meeting to be held January 30th, 1809, reads as follows:

Whereas by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

"The people have a right, in an orderly and peaceable manner to assemble to consult upon the common good; give instruction to their representatives, and to request of their legislative body, by the way of addresses, petitions, or remonstrances, redress of the wrongs done them, and of the grievances they suffer;"—And the period having arrived when in our opinion this right ought to be exercised in the manner pointed out in the Constitution: Therefore the Selectmen of the town of Saco are hereby requested to call a meeting of the Inhabitants of said town at the old Meeting house on Monday the thirtieth day of January instant at ten of the Clock in the forenoon, for the express purpose of considering the following articles, to wit:—

1<sup>st</sup>. To choose a Moderator to regulate said Meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup>. To consult upon the common good; give instructions to our representatives; and to request of the legislative body, by way of

addresses, petitions, or remonstrances, redress of the wrongs done us, and of the grievances we suffer.

3rd. To raise any Committee which may be deemed expedient, and to act on any resolutions which may be presented, conformable to the second article.

4th. To appoint an Agent or Agents, if necessary, to carry the resolutions and doings of the town into effect.

Saco, Jaury, 17th, 1809.

(Signed) EDWARD TUCKER  
and 56 others.

The citizens met as requested and discussed the embargo. Saco was, at that time, the home port of a considerable number of vessels and the town was suffering rather severely from the law. So, at least, thought Cyrus King, who, in his capacity as a leading lawyer and Federalist, rose in the meeting and offered a set of resolutions in which it was stated that "the vessels of our citizens were decaying at their wharves and staple commodities perishing at their stores." After picturing the distress prevalent because of the embargo, the resolves continued with an appeal to the General Court to use "every constitutional method to obtain a repeal of the law," and asked that the Court "would remain in session until Congress rose and if the citizens should fail of relief from that Honorable body, that the General Court would then adopt such measures as should, in a constitutional way, relieve the citizens of the Commonwealth from their embarrassments, restore to them the right of acquiring and possessing property which they had by the gift of God and by inheritance from their ancestors and protect them in the enjoyment of that right as secured by the Constitution."

These were bold words. Sustained by the persuasive oratory of King, they must have made something of an impression; but attachment to party outbalanced devotion to private interests. The Republicans of Saco would not indulge in criminations of the administration, in spite of the injury its policy was doing to their business, and they accordingly rejected the resolutions and adopted those next proposed.

The accepted series was by Jeremiah Bradbury. It begins: "The Inhabitants of this town \* \* \* \* \* view with the deepest concern the attempts which are making to inflame the publick mind against the measures of government and unjustly to induce a belief that the evils we experience are the effects of those measures, when in fact they result from the lawless violence and injustice of foreign nations." After a quotation from "the departed Patriot, Washington," relative to obstruction of the laws, the resolutions continue as follows:

Resolved 1<sup>st</sup>, That we have ever had the fullest confidence in the integrity and wisdom of the present Legislature and Executive of the United States and that that confidence still remains undiminished—

2<sup>nd</sup>, That we consider the present embarrassments of trade and Commerce as the result of the piratical orders and decrees of Great Britain and France—

3<sup>rd</sup>. That we view with indignation and abhorrence, the conduct of many of our fellow citizens, who appear to desire a separation of the union, by opposition to the laws of a Government constitutionally chosen, and whose laws we consider as the voice of the people and which every good citizen is in duty bound to obey and defend—

4<sup>th</sup>, That we are led from a general observance of passing events to suspect that an influence prevails in our County, hostile to the liberties of the people and in opposition to their own true interest.

5<sup>th</sup>, That we highly estimate the last counsels of Washington and in compliance with his advice will "frown indignantly on the first dawnings of every attempt to alienate one portion of our Country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts."—

6<sup>th</sup>, \* \* \* \* —

7<sup>th</sup>, \* \* \* \* —

The resolutions conclude with the request that the town representatives at the General Court "oppose lawless violence, and strengthen our common Country against the pernicious influence of British councils and French intrigue."—

The selectmen of the town were authorized to publish the proceedings of the meeting in the *Eastern Argus* and in the Republican papers in Boston.

Although the embargo did so much harm to commerce, it

was not an unmitigated evil, since, by affording the strictest protection possible, it encouraged home industries and caused manufactories to spring up all over the country. The abundant water power of the river rendered Saco a particularly desirable location, and in 1811, Josiah Calef, "of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, Merchant," entered into a co-partnership with Thomas Cutts and formed the *Saco Iron Works Company*. The terms were agreed upon March 16, 1811, and an indenture was signed December 5th of the same year. The company was to manufacture "Hoops, Nail Plates, Nail & Spike Rods, Nails or Brads, Tacks and such other Iron work as they might thereafter think proper to engage in." Col. Cutts sold Calef half of a mill privilege, subject to certain restrictions, for \$550 and the two men agreed 'to own halves and in that proportion to divide expenses, profits and losses.'

The whole expense of erecting the buildings (which stood on the western side of Cutts' Island) and buying the machinery, up to January 13, 1812, was \$14,329.86. During the year 1812 improvements were made to the amount of \$1,517.44, so that the enterprise was fully as extensive as any yet entered upon in town.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE WAR OF 1812.

THE outrages committed by England upon the seas at length grew unendurable, and on June 18, 1812, the United States declared war. In its incipiency, the war was opposed by the Federalists who believed that it would ruin what little commerce remained to them; but, as usual, the great Republican majority had its way and hostilities commenced.

At this time, New England was the richest section of the Union and New England still preserved the Federal spirit. In consequence, the government found it rather difficult to get money to carry on the war and there was hard feeling between the parties. A prominent Republican in Saco at the time was Thomas G. Thornton, who had been made Marshal of Maine early in Jefferson's administration. In a letter of his, dated April, 1813, Thornton says :

"April 1st alias fools day—There are more fools on this day than usual. The Feds are fools if they wish for Peace that they do not back their Govt & tell the English they have nothing to hope from our division \* \* \* \* \* The Feds in this County held as they called it a great Meeting (100), we (the Repubns) determined to outdo them, had a meeting of more than 1000."

The attitude of New England was in one way a benefit to it, for the British regarded the people of the section as half-friends and did not carry serious hostilities into the north-eastern states until near the close of the war. Nevertheless, as early as March, 1813, an English privateer was seen off Winter Harbor.

Thursday, April 2nd, Mrs. Cutts, writing to her husband, Capt. Thomas Cutts, Jr., informed him of the fact:

"We have had an English privateer off here," the letter reads, "ever since Monday. She was seen taking two vessels. I heard their guns last evening and have heard them again this morning. I believe they have not attempted to come in here yet, nor do I think they will. Their plan appears to be taking all the coasters they can. Mr. Hussey says she is small."

Soon after war was declared, Richard Cutts wrote Capt. Thomas Cutts, Jr., that he had "a promise from the Secretary of the Navy that he would station one of the Gun Boats in Winter Harbour." If the promise had been kept, a large amount of property would have been preserved, as it proved, to Capt. Cutts, and so, indirectly, to the town; but the gun boat never arrived, and the harbor and Pool were left quite unprotected. Capt. Cutts had succeeded his father, Col. Cutts, as ship-builder and owner, and made his headquarters at the Pool where he had a large store and a ship-yard. He continued his ship-building during the war and seems never to have feared the British. His bravado finally grew too much for his father, who was more of a cautious turn of mind, as the following letter implies:

Saco, 18th April 1814.

Dear Brother:

Your Father is anxious for you to have your Vessels moved out of danger of the Enemy. It is reported that there is a large British force now between Cape Cod & Seguin. Most of the Vessels that did lay at Portsmouth are removed up the River. It is unnecessary of me to advise you respecting your moving your Vessels out of danger, as I have always since the War advised you not to risque any property at the Pool that could be moved away. Since writing the above I have read a letter from Richard saying that a large reinforcement have arrived in the Chesapeake.

in haste I am Respectfully

Your Affectionate Brother

DOMINICUS CUTTS.

But the Captain persisted in believing his property safe,

until, on June 16, 1814, the *Bulwark*, an English frigate of ninety guns, anchored about two miles and a half from Fletcher's Neck. Her arrival was the signal for great consternation. News of the event reached Saco and scores of men and boys walked, or rode, to Ferry Beach and Old Orchard to get a look at the sight. An attack on the town was believed by many to be the object of the visit, and not a few began to move their furniture to a place of safety. A sea-faring man was sent into the belfry of the church, armed with a spy-glass, to observe the movements of the enemy.

In a short time the suspense was relieved. Five boats, containing one hundred and fifty well armed men, were dispatched from the frigate, and after a temporary landing on Stage Island, the whole detachment took its way to the Pool. The men were disembarked at the Neck, where Capt. Cutts met them with a white flag and asked the leader, Seymour, his intentions. His answer is said to have been: "*To destroy the place! To pay a visit to Captain Cutts! To pay off old debts!*"

Cutts endeavored to make a money settlement and was referred to the commanding officer of the ship, Capt. Milne, who soon came ashore in a gig. Upon hearing the proposal the British captain refused to entertain it, saying that he had positive orders to destroy property and, forthwith, in his presence, the sailors set fire to the hull of a new ship of 265 tons burden, valued at \$8,000; cut a second of 540 tons, worth \$7,000, to pieces on the stocks; and carried away still another, which Capt. Cutts ransomed for \$6,000, but which proved a total loss on her next voyage.\*

In addition to this wilful destruction, the English burned a Cape Cod schooner, together with the *Sabine*, a sloop of fifty or sixty tons from the same locality. Some of the men entered Capt. Cutts' store and compelled the clerk, 'Bill' Pitcher, to hand down whatever struck their fancy. In this way they obtained goods of all kinds to the value of \$2,000. Having

\*The ships were the *HARMOINE*, the *CATHERINE* and the *EQUATOR*.

completed their work they once more embarked and were received on board the frigate which soon sailed away.

Meanwhile, Jesse Tarbox, who lived on the highest part of Fletcher's Neck, left his wife to witness the outrage from a window and hurried, as a messenger from the inhabitants, to summon the militia. At a late hour the soldiers came down on the *opposite* shore and then, like the Duke of York, marched home again.\*

The reason for this wanton visitation is traced to a circumstance which transpired before the war, when, it is said, Capt. Cutts offered indignity to an English sea-captain who put in at the Pool. This captain, so the story goes, became one of the subordinate officers of the *Bulwark* and prompted the attack.

Early in 1814, the British began operations in Eastern Maine of which they gained possession. This move, taken in conjunction with the burning of Washington, which occurred August 24, caused great depression and anxiety in the towns of York County and one of the items in the call for a town meeting to be held in Saco, September 10, 1814, is "to see what measures the town will adopt for defence against the common enemy." At the meeting the following resolutions were drawn up relative to the crisis:

*Resolved.* That we view the destruction of the Capital and the occupation of several parts of our own State by the enemy as causes of deep regret, humiliation and alarm. But we do not despair of our Country. Washington and his brave companions in Glory and in arms established our independence. Let us invoke their spirit and convince the world that we are not degenerate.

*Resolved.* That we will cordially unite with our fellow citizens without distinction of Party in defending to the last extremity our country, our liberty, our property, and domestic firesides against every invasion. A brave man may be overcome, it is his own fault if he survive the liberties of his country.

*Resolved.* That we will cheerfully and promptly join in every measure of defence which may be adopted or recommended by the proper authority.

\*They could hear the strains of the band on the *Bulwark*.

*Resolved.* That it be earnestly recommended to the citizens of this town to continue on the alert, ready at a moment's warning to fly to the post of danger which can always be made the post of honour.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Resolved.* To direct the selectmen to have constantly in readiness 1000 rations and the means of conveying the same to any point to which the Militia may be marched, and that immediately after the militia shall march on alarm given a sufficient quantity of provisions should be sent after them.

Also that a sufficient and suitable supply of fixed ammunition should be sent after the troops under the care of some trusty person to be delivered on the requisition of the commanding officers as the occasion may require. That the town should recommend to the commanders of Companies to see that every man is equipped according to law, and to assign proper alarm posts for the forces to assemble at. That (the town) recommend to the exempts to form themselves into companies and to hold themselves in readiness to act as occasion may require. That the town request the Proprietors of the Meeting house not to suffer the Bell to be rung on any occasion whatever except in case of alarm. Tolling being considered under existing circumstances sufficient for the purpose of Meetings on the sabbath and funerals.

\* \* \* \* \* ————— \* \* \* \* \* ————— \* \* \* \* \*

The enemy, which the language of the resolution shows was daily expected, did not come. Peace was made December 24, 1814, and Saco was relieved from the greatest danger to which it has ever been exposed. When the news of peace reached the town, the inhabitants hardly knew how to contain themselves for joy. The Academy was in session when the first word was received. The preceptor, Ezra Haskell, hearing the church bell ringing and a great din in the centre of the village, sent a boy to learn the cause of the disturbance. Soon the pupil burst into the room almost as much out of breath as the messenger from Marathon, gasping, "*Peace is proclaimed ! Peace is Proclaimed !*" "The school is dismissed," said the preceptor, gravely, and scholars and teacher joined in the jubilation.

One of the methods adopted by the citizens to express their thanksgiving deserves to be handed down, for all time, as a model to be followed on such occasions and similar ones. The following is from a copy of a paper in the possession of the York Institute:

When the joyfull News of the conclusion of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain, reached this place, the following Gentlemen in Saco and Biddeford contributed the sums set against their respective names, to be distributed among the poor and destitute families in the two towns, that all Hearts might rejoice together, in the return of Peace to our beloved Country.

Viz. H. M. Spring	\$2.00	Nath <sup>l</sup> . Snow	1.00
Jona. Cleaves	3.00	John Chadwick,	.50
John Noble	2.00	Benj. Pike	2.00
Jereh. Milliken	2.00	Daniel Dennett,	1.00
I. F. Snow	1.00	I. M. Cumpston	1.00
Seth Storer Jr.	1.00	Mr. Foscall	1.00
Rufus Banks	1.00	Benj. Seammans	1.00
James B. Thornton	5.00	Sam <sup>l</sup> . S. Jordon	1.00
Eliza Gray	1.00	David Buckminster	1.00
Wm. P. Preble	3.00	Moses Stevans	1.00
Danl. Granger	3.00	Sam <sup>l</sup> . Rodgers	1.00
Ether Shepley	1.00	Moses Jacobs	1.50
John Fairfield	1.00	R. C. Shannon	1.00
Stephen Littlefield	.50	Joseph Leland	5.00
James Donnell	2.00	Jona. Tucker	.50
Daniel Cleaves	5.00	Edward Tucker	1.00
Lauriston Ward	1.00	Andrew Seammans	1.50
Daniel Stone	2.00	Abel Hersey	1.00
Geo. Thatcher,	3.00	Wm. W. Cleaves	2.00
Tristram Hooper	1.00	James Maxwell	1.00
Samuel Merrill	3.00	James Murch	1.30
Daniel Libby	1.00	Moses Bradbury	1.30
Israel Baker	1.00	Wm. Freeman	1.30
Samuel Pierson	2.00	Jereh. Boothby	1.00
Wm. Benson	1.00	Josiah Caleph	2.00
Jno. F. Seammans	2.00	Sam <sup>l</sup> . Moody	5.00
Sarah Thornton	5.00	Bradbury Johnson	.50
Samuel Hartley	5.00	Geo. Seammans	1.00
Hannah King	2.00	Stephen Fairfield	1.00

Dominicus Cutts	2.00	Thos. Warren	1.00
James Rounds	4.00	Abner Sawyer	1.25
Daniel Townsends Jr.	1.00	Jona. King	3.00
Samuel Emery	1.00	James Curry	(Paper is mut-
Sullivan Snow	1.00	Danl. Townsend	ilated here
Eliakim Wardwell	1.00	Asa Stevens	and remainder
Edwd. S. Moulton	1.00	Edmund	is gone)*

This was certainly a very generous way of celebrating. It was matched, on the festive score, by the *Peace Ball*, given by Marshal T. G. Thornton, at the tavern of John Cleaves. The people of Saco had enjoyed many dancing parties previous to this one—there was a dancing-school in Saco as early as 1809 when the ‘master’ and ‘fiddler’ were from Portland—but none that equaled it in magnificence. All of the principal families in town were represented by members ‘attired in their best clothes and on their very best behaviour.’ Cutts, Hartley, Nye, Thorriton, Scamman—and a dozen more familiar names are on the list of those present, and the tradition of the dresses they wore, and the cotillions they danced† is undying. It was a grand occasion. With the possible exception of Lafayette’s visit to Saco, no event of olden times is so familiar to the present generation, or so pleasantly remembered by the surviving participants.

\*There is also a list giving the names of those to whom the money was distributed.

†The music for the occasion was furnished by Fiddler Gray of Portland.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE SEPARATION OF MAINE.

WAR seems to have had the effect of rendering Maine people restless. After the close of the Revolution there had been an unsuccessful movement toward the separation of the District from Massachusetts, and now that peace had been declared and the second struggle with Great Britain was over, the inhabitants once more agitated the question. The call for a town-meeting in 1816 is as follows:

To the Selectmen of Saco.

The Subscribers inhabitants of said town request you to call a town Meeting on Monday next at two O'clock, P. M. at the old Meeting house for the following purposes, To choose a Moderator; To see if said town will petition the Legislature of Massachusetts to take such Measures as will effect a Separation of Maine from Massachusetts and make it an Independent and Sovereign State, and they also request that notification of said Meeting may be posted at the usual places on Sabbath day, also that they may be posted at the Public Houses and Stores, and in the Streets of said town.

Saco January 24<sup>th</sup> 1816.

ICHABOD FAIRFIELD.

NICHOLAS SCAMMAN.

T. G. THORNTON.

SAML. I. MORRILL.

JOHN CLEAVES.

WM. W. CLEAVES.

JOHN T. CLEAVES.

BENJ<sup>N</sup>. PATTERSON.

BENJ<sup>N</sup>. HILL.

It was voted, at the meeting, that the selectmen be a committee to petition the Legislature of Massachusetts to effect a separation. Whether the committee performed the duty

entrusted to it or not, it is certain that the matter was not allowed to rest without further and decisive action, since the records state that, pursuant to a warrant, the inhabitants of the town of Saco assembled at the old meeting-house, May 20, 1816, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and voted on the question: "Shall the Legislature be requested to give its consent to the separation of the District of Maine from Massachusetts proper, and to the erection of said District into a Separate State?" the result of the ballot being that the "ayes" had it, 220 to 7.

At this stage of affairs, the Legislature of Massachusetts passed an act, fixing the conditions on which a separation might take place, and authorizing the inhabitants of the various towns to meet on the first Monday in September, 1816, to choose delegates to a convention to be held at Brunswick on the last Monday in the same month. They were further ordered to vote upon the question of separation and return the result to the convention. Should the votes cast in favor of the change be to those against in the proportion of five to four the convention was to proceed to draw up a state constitution.\*

Under this act, the citizens of Saco met, Monday, September 2nd, 1816, and chose as delegates, Hon. William Moody, Hon. William P. Preble, and Benjamin Pike. The vote on separation then taken resulted in a count of 215 in favor of it and 16 against it.

When the convention assembled at Brunswick there were one hundred and eighty-eight delegates present. William King was chosen president and Samuel K. Whiting, of Portland, secretary. Previous to organization, the friends of the separation held a caucus. Much uneasiness was felt as to the success of the cause since some towns were lukewarm on the subject and others positively opposed. Among the latter was Eliot whose vote, in 1819, was twenty for separation and one hundred and twenty-two against it. Not having chosen a delegate

\*The authority for the statements here made respecting the act and the doings of the convention, is Willis' History of Portland.

the authorities of Eliot entrusted their package of ballots to the acre of a gentleman sent by a neighboring town, with the request that they be opened and counted with the rest. When, from the returns presented in the caucus, the chances seemed against separation, a prominent member, to whom the bundle had been handed, threw it out of the window. He then went out, and picking it up, gave it to another delegate, who passed it to the next, and so on, until no trace of it could be found. When the votes were counted, in the convention, those from Eliot were missing. A search was instituted, but resulted in nothing, and the returns from Eliot found no place on the records.

The whole number of votes cast on the question was found to be 22,466, of which 11,927 were for the separation and 10,539 against. A majority of five to four of the votes returned was 12,481, so that there was a deficiency of 554. A committee of the convention, of which John Holmes was chairman and Judge Preble one of the members, decided, by a peculiar mode of reasoning, that the necessary majority *had* been obtained. They construed the act to mean not an aggregate majority of five to four, but, to use their own language, "as the delegates must be apportioned according to the respective majorities of their towns, so on the question of separation, the majorities of yeas in the towns and plantations in favor must be, to the majority of nays in those opposed as five to four of the votes returned. The corporate majority of yeas must be placed in one column, and those of nays in the other, and each added, then as five is to four, so is the aggregate majority of yeas to those opposed." A calculation on this basis gave 6,031 yeas and 4,825 nays, the majority thus exceeding the legislative requirement by 416 votes. It is said that if the votes sent in by Eliot had been counted the cause of separation would have been defeated, even after this skilful evasion of the statute.

The report of the committee, which held that Maine had a right to become a state according to law, was accepted in the

convention by a vote of 103 to 84. The minority entered a protest. A committee was appointed to draft a state constitution, but active measures were suspended until the legislature should pass on the action already taken. The matter was referred by the General Court to a committee which, in its report, stated that it 'had no hesitation in saying the committee (of the convention) had misconstrued the act by which their powers were defined. That, of consequence, the contingency provided by the act as prerequisite to the formation of a constitution, and as a condition of the consent of the legislature to the separation of Maine, had not occurred, and the powers of said convention were at an end.'

This decision put a temporary quietus on the movement for separation. But the subject was revived in 1817 and agitated with great zeal and ability. When the question came before the legislature in June, 1819, there were about one hundred petitions from incorporated towns and plantations in favor of separation. Among these was one from the selectmen of Saco who had been instructed to draw up such a paper by the town-meeting which assembled in obedience to the following call:

To the Selectmen of Saco,

The subscribers inhabitants of said town request you to call a town Meeting on Monday the tenth day of May next, at the old Meeting house in said town, for the following purposes,

1st. To choose a Moderator to regulate said Meeting.

2nd. To see if said town will petition the Legislature of Massachusetts to take such Measures as will effect a Separation of Maine from Massachusetts and make it an Independent State.

Saco, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1819.

D. Granger.	Ben'jn. Pike.
Ichabod Jordan.	John Allen.
Edmund Moody.	Andrew Scamman.
Jonn. Cleaves.	Samuel Moody.
Isaac F. Snow.	George Scamman.
James B. Thornton Jr.	Daniel Libbey.
Edw'd. S. Moulton.	Henry Jameson.

The legislature, for the second time, passed a bill defining the

regulations under which a division might be made. The act provided that a vote of the inhabitants of the District should be taken on the last Monday in July, and if a majority of 1,500 could be obtained, delegates should be chosen to meet in Convention, at the court-house in Portland, on the second Monday in October, 1819, to frame a constitution for the new State.

On July 26, 1819, at the first town-meeting held in the new meeting-house,\* the citizens of Saco voted for separation, 325 to 16. Returns from all the towns in the state showed a majority in favor of the change of 9,959. The other proceedings prescribed by the act followed in regular course. September 20th, 1819, Ether Shepley, William Moody, and George Thatcher, Jr., were chosen delegates from Saco to the Portland convention, and on December 6, 1819, the town voted unanimously to accept the state constitution. The State was admitted to the Union by Congress, March 4th, 1820, and became an independent State the 16th of the same month. The first election of State officers occurred April 3d, 1820, and the first legislature assembled at Portland on Wednesday, May 31st, of the same year.

\*The old meeting-house served as a town house until 1825. A vestry, built on the meeting-house lot on the post-road in 1823, was subsequently used for town gatherings.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### THREE NOTABLE OCCASIONS.

THE patriotic spirit which prompted the subscription paper and the Peace Ball, at the close of the War of 1812, was kept alive in the succeeding decade by three memorable events. The first of these notable occurrences was the visit of President Monroe in 1817; another, the reception of Lafayette in 1825; and the third, the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence, July 4th, 1826. Although separated by considerable intervals of time, and in two instances not properly within the period covered by the present narrative the three events have so much in common that they had best be treated together, by way of concluding chapter to the first epoch of town history.

When Monroe came to the presidency his first care was to conciliate New England, which was still in the sulks on account of the war which, as was expected, had ruined many of her merchants and ship-builders. In order to promote his design, the President spent the summer of 1817 in travelling through New England and the Northern States. His journey did great good. He went as a peace-maker; he was a Revolutionary soldier; and his reputation for honesty was without a blemish. Wherever he went, he was greeted by the veterans of '76, whose enthusiasm was imparted to the people at large, until old prejudices were forgotten and the "Era of Good Feeling" began. So great did the President's popularity become, that on his election for a second term but one electoral vote was cast against him, and that merely through a sentiment that no man ought to be unanimously chosen as Washington had been.

When the news of the President's intended visit reached Saco, a meeting was called, for June 23d, "to take into consideration and to adopt such measures as to the inhabitants should appear fit and proper in order to express to the President on his visit to the District of Maine those sentiments of respect and confidence which the inhabitants cherished for the Chief Magistrate of the United States." At the meeting, two committees were appointed: One, composed of Ether Shepley, Tristram Jordan, Jr., and Benjamin Pike, was to draw up an address; the second was to make all other needful arrangements and was made up of Thos. G. Thornton, Joseph Leland, Daniel Granger, James Gray, William P. Preble, Dominicus Cutts and the selectmen, Tristram Jordan, Jr., William Moody, and Benjamin Pike.

What the arrangements became may be learned from the following letter by Marshal Thornton:

SACO, July 5, 1817.

HON. O. COOK,

SIR,

I have been waiting until I cou'd condense all the information I cou'd obtain relative to the subject matter of yr last letters (as every day gives fresh & additional information). I rec'd. on Friday a letter from Marshl. Prince dated Dedham 2d. July the day the President intend [ed to visit] Boston; he says he will be in Maine "*in all the next week.*" I think not, he may be in Portland by next Monday or Tuesday week. I shall meet him at the line of my district (Kittery or Berwick) when I will give you further information, how far he will go East & when he may be expected in W—. I think he cannot be there before next Friday week, but more of this when I obtain further information. In Saco, we had a town meeting 23d June, chose 5 Gen<sup>n</sup> in addition to Selectmen, voted an address, meet the President at line of the town, throw an elegant arch over the Bridge, have twenty young misses 12. to 16. years of age, dressed in white, to represent the States, the names of which will be on a turban or girdle round the waist, in Capital letters, they will strew roses &c on approach of the President or present him with a bouquet in behalf of the States they represent (or *something*, or *somehow* in this way or *something* like it—) It appears to be *etiquette* for town Committees to meet the President at the line of their town. We

shall have of our own Citizens, & the back towns, a numerous Cavaleade on horseback and with Carriages. We shall attend the President as a town to the line of Scarboro'. \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  
Portland are doing the business in style, hire the large "*Mclellan house*" furnish & provision it &c for President & suite &c &c &c &c  
\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* Distinguished Citizens will be in Company with me at the line of the district to welcome the *Man of the People*. Now I have told all I know what more can be expected? if I learn any more I will communicate it, for the information of the people in yr town & vicinity.—

Yrs O—

T. G. THORNTON.

*To welcome the Man of the People -*

*Yrs O. H. Thornton*

On Monday, July 12, 1817, the President was at Portsmouth. He left that town the next (Tuesday) morning, at six o'clock, and was received on the Kittery side by Marshal Thornton, Mr. Holmes and others. After an address had been presented to him, the company passed on to York where breakfast was taken with Judge Sewall. A public reception was given at Kennebunk, after which the party proceeded to Biddeford and Saco.

So far as known, no detailed account of the President's reception in Saco has been preserved, but it is reasonable to suppose that the arrangements mentioned by Marshal Thornton were carried out. The address presented by Ether Shepley having previously been presented to the people and approved is recorded in the town book. It reads as follows:

**MR. PRESIDENT:**

The inhabitants of the Town of Saco beg permission to express to you their congratulations; and the satisfaction they feel on receiving among them the Chief Magistrate of the United States.

And while they acknowledge the inability of their small village to manifest its respect for your public services, and private virtues so conspicuously as have the large and populous towns and cities, in the sincerity and cordiality with which they express it, they would give place to none.

In common with their Countrymen they duly appreciate the object of your present journey, and accept it as a proof of that watchfull attention and extraordinary exertion for the public welfare, which they had anticipated. As citizens of Maine they feel still more sensibly this mark of attention, as it will afford you an opportunity of judging of the propriety of the claim, which they have so zealously and unfortunately asserted to become an independent and constituent member of the Union.

The period of tranquility is improved with great judgment for examining into the military position and resources of every portion of the country.

And the more minute that examination, the more clearly will be perceived the necessary dependencies, and peculiar adaptation of the several States for making one great and happy Nation; and the little cause that any portion of the country can have to complain, that its prosperity and interest are incompatible with the interest and prosperity of that of any other.

Accustomed to regard the National Government as the source from whence our Commercial intercourse derives its protection, and the republican institutions of our Country their safety; it affords them the highest gratification to know, it is placed under the guidance and protection of one, in whom they had acquired a just confidence, by his participating so largely during the administration of his ever to be respected Predecessor, in those measures, which by a firm, dignified, impartial, and energetic course of conduct towards all Nations, terminated a war waged to vindicate the essential rights of the Country, so gloriously; and procured for the Nation a reputation that will ensure her respect for the future.

Your great exertions during that period have not been forgotten. And while some, misled by their passions or immediate interest stigmatized the measures of Government as inefficient and yet oppressive, with a mildness, that inspired confidence in all, you

performed the duties incumbent on you as an officer of the Government in a manner, that does not permit us to doubt, that your future official life will be employed for the permanent good of the Country.

That the Union may be strengthened, and the prosperity and happiness of the Nation increased during your administration; that you may be prospered throughout, and returned in safety from your present tour, may enjoy the esteem of a grateful people, and finally receive the rewards of Virtue is our most ardent wish.

ETHER SHEPLEY,  
per order of the Committee.

To this address President Monroe replied by letter as follows:

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF SACO.

FELLOW CITIZENS,

I receive with great sensibility the cordial assurance of your personal respect and regard. That the principal object of my tour is of great moment must be manifest to all; since the confidence of the whole nation in their government is greatly strengthened by the complete security, as far as this is practicable, of every part of our territory.

The confidence you express in me I cordially reciprocate; and if by a faithful discharge of my duty I may providentially contribute to the happiness of the whole American people, both your and my most ardent wish will be fully accomplished.

JAMES MONROE.

Having received the gratulations of the citizens, the President continued on his way, reaching Portland the same day. He passed Wednesday in that place and then, on Thursday, set out on his return, spending Thursday night in Dover.

It seems rather strange that the tradition of this visit has not been more minutely handed down. It was a great event for the town and one worthy of remembrance. But its report was doubtless obscured by the fame of Lafayette's visit which took place eight years later.

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Soon after Lafayette's arrival in America, in 1824, he was cordially invited by the citizens of Saco to visit the town. The distinguished general was not able to respond immediately, but

accepted the invitation and expressed his intention to meet it in the following letter to John Fairfield, Esq.:

WASHINGTON February 5th 1825

SIR

Altho' it has not been in my power, on my last eastern visit, to go so far as the State of Maine, I have most deeply felt for the kind invitations I have received, particularly from the Citizens of Saco; and will be happy if in the course of next summer I may [present] them with the personal tribute of my respectful gratitude. Be pleased, Gentlemen, in the mean while, to accept yourselves and to offer to your fellow citizens the expression of those sentiments and of my highest regard.

LAFAYETTE.

Early in June, 1825, positive intelligence of Lafayette's intended journey into Maine was received, and preparations were begun for his reception. At a town-meeting, Wednesday, June 8th, 1825, presided over by John Fairfield, it was voted "that the resolutions relative to Lafayette's visit be accepted." Here they are:

Whereas the Citizens of the town of Saco having at an early period after the arrival of General La Fayette in this country in the honorable spirit so generally diffused, extended to him an Invitation to visit them on his tour to the State of Maine, and whereas in his reply to them he has signified his readiness to gratify their wishes:

*Therefore Resolved* that we entertain sentiments of the highest respect and admiration for the great Philanthropist who has cheerfully and disinterestedly devoted a life in the cause of Liberty generally, and more particularly do we entertain feelings of affection and gratitude for the man who abandoned the Political distinctions and social endearments of his country and home, and heroically espoused the cause of an injured and oppressed Country, at a time when every expedient for the preservation of her rights had been resorted to in vain, except the untried expedient of an appeal to arms and who during the whole of that glorious struggle of our fathers, for freedom and the equal rights of man evinced unparalleled exertion, sacrifice and devotion.

*Resolved* that we view with great pleasure his contemplated visit to the State of Maine when every freeman may have an opportunity of witnessing the great friend of freemen and that he be received

and entertained under the direction of a Committee to be chosen for that purpose.

*Resolved* That a Committee of nine persons be appointed to confer with a committee of the town of Biddeford who it is expected will associate with us on this occasion for the purpose of making suitable arrangements for the Reception of so distinguished a Guest.

[Voted] That the said Committee be chosen by hand Vote.

That Ether Shepley, Joseph Leland, Daniel Granger, Benjamin Pike, Geo. Scamman, Edwd. S. Moulton, Geo. Parcher, John F. Scamman, & John Spring, be the said Committee.

Lafayette arrived in Biddeford, June 24th, 1825. What transpired, following the event, is well told by the Saco citizen who wrote an account of the affair to a Portland paper:

*For the American Patriot.*

#### LAFAYETTE AT SACO AND BIDDEFORD.

Partaking of the Spirit and feeling so universally manifested throughout the United States, on the visit of General Lafayette, the citizens of Saco and Biddeford had anxiously looked forward to the time, when they should have the opportunity of offering to the man, on whom had fallen the mantle of our revered Washington, the personal tribute of their admiration and gratitude; and on Friday the 24th of June, at half past four o'clock in the afternoon, he was received by them on the plains, in Biddeford. After having been announced as the "Nation's Guest" to the Committee of Arrangements for the towns of Saco and Biddeford, who united on this occasion, by Col. Emery one of the aids of Governor Parris, he was addressed by Ether Shepley, Esq. Chairman of the Committee.

#### "General LAFAYETTE.

We congratulate you on your safe arrival among us. We are thankful to a kind Providence for your preservation. We rejoice in the opportunity to tender our thanks and afford some testimonials of our gratitude to the early friend of our Country. It is with pleasure we behold the veteran Soldier of our Revolution, and the friend of our Washington, after having passed through many scenes of suffering & of danger in the evening of his days, happy in the enjoyment of the blessings of health and of liberty. We hail the

era of a nation's pouring forth her gratitude and receiving to her bosom the friend of her infancy, as *one* long to be remembered for the lesson it teaches the whole family of man—a *lesson*, which shows, that, to part with one's substance to aid the oppressed to secure their rights, is to treasure up honour; to bear the fatigue and encounter the dangers of war to obtain the blessings of freedom, is to accumulate glory. Dear to us then, General, by the remembrance of your early sacrifices and labors for our Country. Dear to us on account of the sufferings you have since endured in the cause of freedom. Dear to us, for the lesson which the history of your life will afford to us—our children, and the world. We bid you welcome to our homes."

To this, the General replied in his usual, happy and appropriate manner. After which, he was escorted to Cleaves' hotel, in Saco, by a numerous cavalcade, under the direction of Col. Geo. Thacher, Chief Marshal of the day, aided by a suitable number of assistants—proceeding over the free bridges, up Back Street, along Ferry road and down Main Street. Across the bridge between Biddeford and Saco, was erected an elegant arch, bearing the motto, "WELCOME LAFAYETTE," on one column, "YORKTOWN, 17—19th OCTOBER, 1781," & on the other, "VERSAILLES, 5th and 6th OCTOBER, 1789." The sides of the bridge were also tastefully decorated with furs and evergreens. Across the second bridge, at the foot of Cutts' Island, was also erected another arch, on which was the following line taken from a French Play, and applied in the original to Lafayette, "J'ADMIRE SA PRUDENCE, ET J'AIME SON COURAGE." Near the stone building, in Main street, another elegant arch was thrown across bearing the following inscription, "*Then I will equip one, myself,*" at the sight of which, the General was visibly affected. When the Cavalcade arrived opposite the Meeting House, the General was greeted with the simple and affectionate welcomes of a large number of children of both sexes, composing many of the schools in Saco and Biddeford, each school headed by its instructor. The Misses were in uniform and the boys wore a badge on which was inscribed "Welcome Lafayette," and they were introduced to the Gen-

eral by one the Committee, as the rising generation to whom we look for the continuation of that *liberty* which he and his associates acquired for us. The General seemed much delighted and received their salutations with evident emotion. The sides of the Streets were thronged with citizens anxious to testify their joy and gratitude by loud & repeated huzzas. At Cleaves' hotel a great number of gentlemen was introduced to him, and among those who shook him by the hand, were many revolutionary soldiers, and some who belonged to the General's Light Infantry. This scene was interesting beyond description. It was impossible for many to suppress the rising tear—and where it was not shed, we might safely say with the poet,

“Joy drank the offering ere it reached the eye.”

The General was then escorted to the house of Capt. Seth Spring in Biddeford, who was a soldier of the Revolution, and was at the Battle of Bunker Hill, where suitable preparations were made to receive him. After partaking of the refreshments provided for him, and tarrying until evening, he was escorted to the house of Mrs. Thornton, widow of the late Marshal Thornton, who, with a feeling that did her honour, threw open her doors to receive the Hero, where was collected a large number of Ladies of Saco and Biddeford and the neighbouring towns, who were severally introduced to him. The scene was full of interest to all. Every countenance was lit up with a glow of feeling thrilling from the heart. Particularly interesting was his introduction to Mrs. Thacher, of Thomaston, the daughter of that revolutionary veteran, General Knox; and Mrs. Savage, the widow of a revolutionary Captain, who was personally rewarded for his bravery by Lafayette.

The elegant house of Mrs. Thornton was still more elegantly decorated by the Ladies, for the occasion. Among other things was noticed a half circle transparency, placed over the front door, exhibiting with much brilliancy “Weleome Lafayette, Columbia’s Friend.” There was also another of the same

description at the foot of the hall. In another apartment, a table was laid with much taste and elegance, and which was bountifully laden with the choicest luxuries. But everything of this description lost its attraction and was unheeded on the General's appearance. On him all eyes beamed. Every lady was anxious to shake by the hand, the early Guardian of her mother's rights and the avenger of her wrongs—and often, during the evening did the eye of beauty sparkle through the tear of joy. On the General's departure, lines were formed on each side of the street, by the gentlemen and ladies from the house, through which he passed, while their acclamations rent the air.

The General spent the night and breakfasted at Capt. Spring's, where he was entertained in a manner that reflects much credit on its hospitable owner, and spoke well of the taste and elegance of those who presided at the board. At seven o'clock on Saturday morning he was again received and escorted by a numerous cavalcade as far as the village in Scarborough, where the citizens were assembled to cheer him on his way. On Sunday morning he returned from Portland, and again took breakfast at Capt. Spring's—tarried a half hour at Col. Emery's, and attended Divine Service at the Rev. Mr. Tracy's meeting house, in Biddeford. At the close of an excellent discourse, Mr. Tracy addressed the General in a manner which drew tears from the greater part of the congregation, and at which, the general was much affected. It was the eloquence of the heart, and all felt its power. Immediately after Divine service, the General set out on his way to Concord, where we understand he arrived the same night. There were many circumstances attending his visit to Saco, interesting in the extreme, but which we feel unable to describe. They belong peculiarly to the painter and the poet. And now he has gone, we can truly say, that

"He is a man, take him for all in all,  
We ne'er shall look upon his like again."

The *Maine Palladium* was a newspaper, devoted to "Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, Politicks, Arts, Sciences, Morality and Religion," published by Putnam & Blake, whose office was nearly opposite the Saco Bank. Among the notices which the issues of June, 1826, contain, is the following:

## FOURTH OF JULY.

The 50th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States will be celebrated in this town by the citizens of the towns of Saco and Biddeford.

An oration will be pronounced on the occasion by Col. **H. B. C. GREEN**, and the Declaration of Independence read by **JNO. FAIRFIELD**, Esq.

Dinner will be provided by John T. Cleaves. Tickets at \$2.50 each,\* may be had at the Book Store of Messrs. **PUTNAM & BLAKE** and at the Hotel of **J. T. CLEAVES**.

Gentlemen who intend uniting in the aforesaid celebration, are particularly requested to take Tickets prior to the 27th inst.

Our friends of the adjoining towns are respectfully invited to unite with us on that occasion.

**R. H. GREEN,**  
**ISAAC EMERY,**  
**JNO. SPRING,**

Committee.

Saco, June 12, 1826.

A subsequent issue tells the story of the celebration :

## THE PALLADIUM.

SACO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1826.

## FOURTH OF JULY.

The fiftieth anniversary of American Independence was celebrated in this place with that spirit recommended by the now deceased sage and patriot, JOHN ADAMS, in a letter to a friend on the *fifth of July*, 1776, and in that spirit which we hope to see manifested on every return of our

\*Reduced, later, to \$1.75.

National Jubilee. We do not recollect ever to have witnessed a more splendid celebration of the Independence of our country, at least in towns of "our magnitude." We feel our incapacity in attempting to give a full and perfect account of it; in as much as there were many circumstances attending it which gave a considerable eclat to the occasion, but which being placed on paper, would perhaps appear to the reader tame and insignificant. The most prominent only will therefore be the subject of our remarks.

The day was "ushered in" by the firing of a national salute, and the merry peal of the three bells in our village—at which time also "the bits of striped bunting" were hoisted in various parts of the town, where they flaunted *freely* and *independently* during the day. After each regular toast at the dinner table, guns were also fired—and another national salute at sun-set.

One of the first occurrences of the day most worthy of remark, was the presentation of a Standard by the young Ladies of Saco and Biddeford, to the newly formed company of Light Infantry,\* called the "*Washington Guards*," under the command of AMOS G. GOODWIN, Esq. At about 9 o'clock in the morning they proceeded to, and drew up in front of the mansion house of Mrs. NYE, where was also assembled a large number of persons to witness the interesting ceremony. The young ladies were dressed in a uniform of blue and white, and were paraded in one line near the house, in the centre of whom appeared Miss MARY ELIZABETH NYE, bearing the banner furled. We could say much of the personal appearance of this young lady, as indeed of all the rest, did we not consider the occasion too important for such considerations, and ourselves too old to be the worshippers of an *elegant freckle* or a *glorious eye-brow*. Miss NYE had been selected by the ladies to present the standard in their behalf, and to express their sentiments on the occasion; and accordingly, in presenting the

\*Organized Tuesday, April 25, 1826.

standard to Ensign THOMAS F. HOWARD, she addressed him as follows :

I have the honour of being delegated, Sir, to present the elegant company to which you belong with a Standard. You will please to receive it as an earnest of the aids, and encouragements, we pledge ourselves to afford you, should the alarms of war disturb the tranquillity that now pervades our beloved country.

When it is remembered, Sir, that the ladies of Saco and Biddeford present you this standard, on the *birth day* of American Independence, it is hoped you will be inspired to noble deeds, by all that is dear in friendship, or sacred in recollection :—and should this banner ever be unfurled in the hour of battle, the moment that “tries men’s souls,” may these emblems of the homes you have to defend, and the holy virtues you have to imitate, animate you in the discharge of your duty.

To which Ensign HOWARD made the following reply :

MADAM,—It has become my duty on this occasion, to express to the ladies of Saco and Biddeford, the sincere gratitude of the *Washington Guards*, for the honour conferred upon them. In receiving from the hand of beauty this symbol of encouragement and support, we pledge ourselves to wear it honorably in peace, and should it ever wave in the hour of battle, to defend it manfully. In such an hour, the memory of this day, on which our fathers stood forth and gallantly asserted their country’s rights; and the recollection of those to whom we are bound by the dearest ties of blood and affection—would be sufficient to stimulate even the coward to deeds of noble daring, and inspire the soldier with feelings of patriotism, which not even the fear of death could diminish. Should the despot and slave ever dare with impious tread to violate the sacred rights and liberties of our country, we swear by the sainted shade of him whose name we bear, that every talent and every faculty with which the God of nature has endowed us, shall be strenuously exerted in their vindication. We will not tamely bend or meanly crouch beneath the haughty power of tyranny,—we will not companion ourselves with bondsmen—we will live as our fathers lived, deliverers of a free, of a happy republick, or die as Warren died, martyrs in the holy cause of “Our Country.”

After which the company proceeded to CLEAVES’ Hotel, to perform escort duty for the day. The appearance of this company in their marching, manœuvring, firing, and general

deportment, far exceeded our most ardent anticipations. At 11 o'clock the procession was formed in the order previously published in our paper,\* and moved to the meeting-house of the Rev. Mr. COGSWELL, where the performances were commenced by singing the Anthem "*O give thanks, &c.*" by the Mozart Society—after which the Throne of Grace was addressed by Rev. Mr. COGSWELL, in a prayer of great fervour and appropriateness. The Declaration of Independence was then read by JNO. FAIRFIELD, Esq.—which was followed with the singing of the following Hymn, written by ETHER SHEPLEY, Esq. for the occasion, and read by Rev. Mr. TRACY:

*Tune—Old Hundred.*

WHEN human laws had claim'd to bind  
 The glorious energies of mind ;  
 When human power yet claim'd controul  
 O'er man's high purposes of soul :  
 When kings' and priests' all pow'rful sway  
 Would point to man his destin'd way ;  
 Controul below—beyond the skies,  
 Or hush complaint, by martyrs' cries—  
 On Plymouth's rock, in sacred hour,  
 Unaw'd—unmov'd by human pow'r,  
 In heavenly light, an altar there  
 A pilgrim rear'd in humble prayer.  
 That light its holy influence rais'd,—  
 Our fathers' God—our God, be prais'd ;  
 "Till reason's—till religion's throne  
 Is claim'd in freedom for our own.

\*Military Escort.

Com. of Arrangements.

Orator.

Clergy.

Invited Guests.

Strangers of Distinction.

Soldiers of Revolution.

Citizens,

Marshals—Charles Hayes, Seth S. Fairfield, and Andrew Scamman.

After which an Oration was pronounced by Col. H. B. C. Greene, which was received with many demonstrations of applause by the most numerous assemblage of people ever witnessed in that house. The sentiments were patriotic, noble and elevated—the style highly classical, and the whole abounding in the most striking and beautiful figures. The performances at the meeting-house were then closed by singing the following Ode, written for the occasion, by GEO. SCAMMAN, Esq.

TUNE—“*Miriam's Song.*”

Swell the full anthem o'er Freedom's proud sea !  
The North has long triumph'd, the South is now free :  
Sing, for the pride of the tyrants is broken,  
Their navies and armies all splendid and brave ;  
How vain was their boasting, the Lord hath but spoken,  
And navies and armies their pow'r could not save.

“Swell the full anthem,” &c.

Praise our deliv'rer, and Bolivar praise,  
Prepare both ye free lands, their monuments raise :  
Who shall be left of the tyrants of story,  
Of those who destroyed in the hour of their pride ;  
The Lord o'er the West, has poured radiance and glory,  
And dash'd the vile despots in Time's whelming tide.  
“Praise our deliv'rer,” &c.

The performances of the Mozart Society were in their usual style; which, to those who have had the pleasure of hearing them before, is saying enough; we think it could not have been surpassed in the State. The procession was again formed, and moved to CLEAVES' Hotel, where about 200 persons, including the “Washington Guards,” sat down to a sumptuous dinner, prepared by the Messrs. CLEAVES. We believe no pains or expense were spared by them; and of their complete success in endeavouring to please, every one testified “in more ways than one.”

There were several gentlemen of distinction from the neighbouring towns who by invitation joined us in the celebration, whose presence gave it a double zest. Among them were the Hon. JOHN HOLMES, Hon. BENJAMIN GREENE, Marshal of Maine, Hon. ISAAC LANE, Hon. ELLIS B. USHER, JERE BRADBURY and DANIEL GOODENOW, Esquires.

ETHER SHEPLEY, Esq. presided at the table, assisted by Vice Presidents Col. Jno. Spring, Col. Isaac Emery, Geo. Thacher and R. H. Green, Esquires, Capt. Abel Hersey and Mr. Edward S. Moulton.

After the cloth was removed the following sentiments were announced by Mr. ANDREW SCAMMAN, Toast Master:

1. *The day we celebrate.* The one in which Reason disclosed her empire.—“*Jefferson's March.*”
2. *Our Union.* A most holy and formidable league—Holy in object—formidable in act.—“*Lafayette March.*”
3. *Our Constitution.* While it protects our citizens' rights—it undermines the oppressors' throne.—“*United States March.*”
4. *The Memory of Washington.* A balm for political honesty—a caustick for apostacy.—“*Washington's March.*”
5. *The President of the United States.* Americans acknowledge his worth—the world his talents.—“*Adams & Liberty.*”
6. *The Army.* The young eagle whetted his beak on the lion's forehead at Bunker hill and Yorktown; in maturer years its point and power were proved at Erie and New Orleans.—“*Yankee Doodle.*”
7. *The Navy.* Its real history resembles a romance of chivalry.—“*Hull's Victory.*”
8. *State of Maine.* If she is not the Corinthian pillar in the edifice, she has all the qualities of the marble to receive the polish, and will be moulded by the taste and industry of her citizens.—“*Maine March.*”
9. *The Governor of the State of Maine.* In scrutinizing

his conduct, we are surprised to find so little to condemn.—“*Gov. Parris' March.*”

10. *Literature.* The *Sun* that gives freshness, vigour and splendour to mind, as does the natural sun to matter.—“*German Waltz.*”

11. *Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures.* Sisters endowed with *equal rights*—may neither become a *spoilt child* by a partial and overweening fondness on the part of parents.—“*Hail Columbia.*”

12. *The Militia.* (By injudicious legislation) a Samson shorn of his strength.—“*Massachusetts March.*”

13. *The Fair.* Let those who contemn them live without them.—“*Robin Adair.*”

These were followed by a large number of voluntary toasts, among which the following are recollected :

By Hon. John Holmes. *The last mission to England*—The President and the minister, able and experienced negotiators—one a citizen of Massachusetts and the other once an inhabitant of Maine—this augurs well for the Northeastern boundary.

By Hon. Benj. Greene. *This fiftieth anniversary of that glorious day on which our Country was born*—May the gratitude we feel, and the national gratifications in which we participate, be realized by our posterity, not only until a full century of years shall have been completed, but until the sun shall have gone down which shall have illuminated the *last* fourth of July.

By Hon. Isaac Lane. *Our Country and Government*—Sound in heart—mighty in power—the safe depository of the rights of man.

By Hon. Ellis B. Usher. *Bunker Hill*—It needed not a monument.

By Jere Bradbury, Esq. *The Inhabitants of Saco and Biddeford*—May their future wealth and happiness be equal to their present enterprise and patriotism.

By Ether Shepley, Esq. President of the day. *The 19th Congress*—National character is not elevated, nor is the publick good promoted by disorder, or passion, or personal altercation.

By Jno. Spring, 1st V. P. Union to all honest men—and disunion to all dishonest ones.

By Isaac Emery Esq. 2nd V. P. *The author of the declaration of independence*—Living like Cincinnatus, upon his farm, he exhibits the beauty, purity and excellence of our republican institutions.

By Reub. H. Green, Esq. 3d V. P. *The Constitution of the United States*—The Corinthian pillar in the temple of liberty—may it never be defaced by malignant or unskilful hands.

By Capt. Abel Hersey, 4th V. P. *Georgia and the United States*—A fractious bantling in the lap of its nurse—may the rod not be spared and the child spoiled.

By Mr. Edward S. Moulton, 5th V. P. *The citizens of the United States*—So long as they continue virtuous and enlightened, so long may they rationally expect to retain their liberty and independence.

By Col. Greene, Orator of the day—*The spirit of chivalry which inspired the hearts of our fathers in '76*—The appearance of our military has this day shown that the spirit is not dead, but slumbereth—ready however to awake at the first tap of alarm from the extreme outposts of our Republicau Liberty.

By Jno. Fairfield, Esq. *William H. Crawford*—Although he could not command success, he could command himself.

By Moses Emery, Esq. *The Washington Guards*—May the young soldiers who have so bravely taken the standard of the young ladies of Saco and Biddeford, pursue their advantage 'till the whole corps are made prisoners.

By Nathan Elden, Jr. Esq. *The revolutionary heroes present on this occasion*—Their presence evinces that the snow on their heads has not quenched the revolutionary flame in their hearts.

By Doct. Geo. Packard. *Greece and Turkey*—David and Goliah—may the result of their conflict be similar.

By Mr. Wm. Emerson. *Greece*—May her enemies find all her hills Bunkers, and her frigates *Constitutions*.

These toasts were agreeably interspersed with several songs, among which was the following, written for the occasion by JNO. FAIRFIELD, Esq. and sung by Col. CHARLES HAYES:

TUNE—“*Scots wha hae.*”

When oppression’s iron hand

Wav’d its sceptre o'er our land,

Then our fathers swore to stand

Free, or nobly die.

Patriot arms were nerv'd to fight,

Bristling bayonets met the sight,

Freemen fought for freemen's right,  
Crown'd with victory.

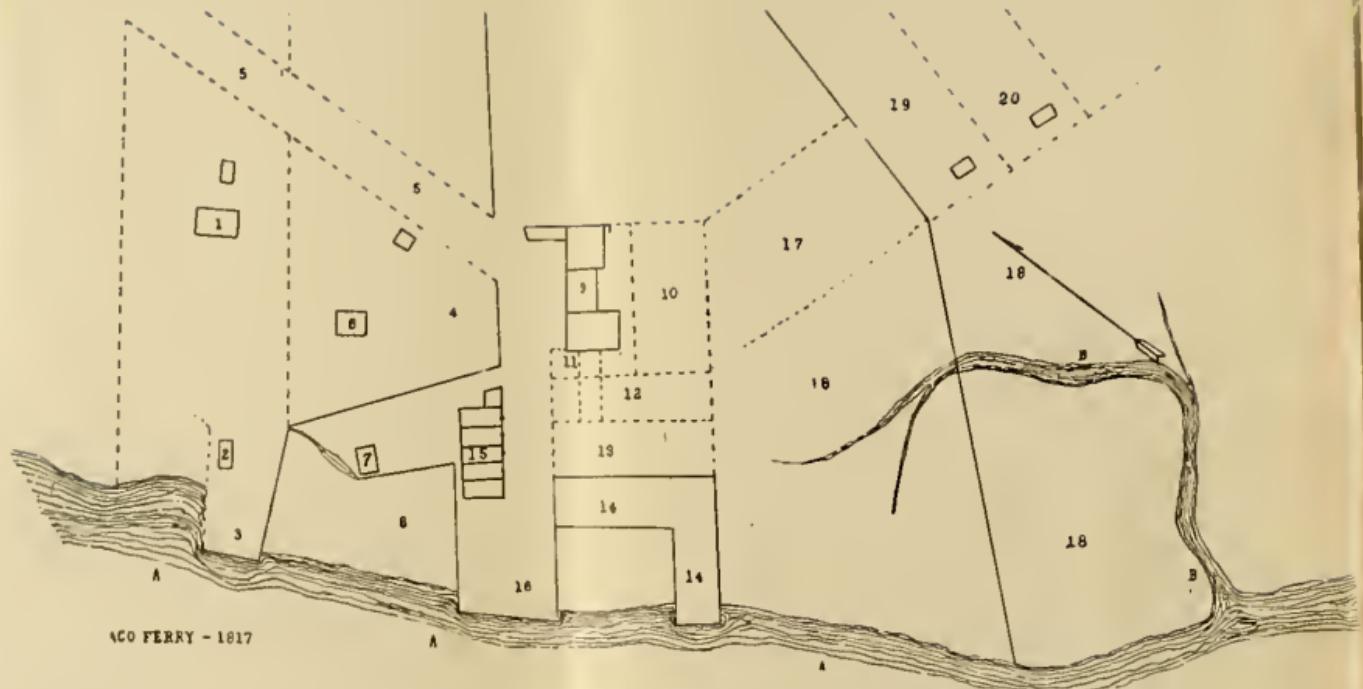
Fifty years have roll'd away,  
But the story of that fray,  
And the glory won that day,  
Live in memory.

Glorious day of Freedom's birth,  
Hail it, all ye sons of earth,  
Seeing, may ye *feel* the worth,  
Of our liberty.

Have those fathers here a son,  
Would lightly prize what they have done,  
Or basely lose what valour won?

No ! it cannot be ;  
Then around this festive board,  
Let us pledge a freeman's word,  
E'er to guard with freeman's sword,  
The boon of liberty.

The utmost hilarity and good feeling prevailed throughout. Not an accident occurred during the day—nor was there any clashing of political opinions to mar the festivities of the occasion. It was a union of all parties, but petty prejudices were discarded, and each could see in the other only a fellow-citizen—a descendant of the heroes of '76, and a coadjutor in the glorious work of diffusing free and rational principles. In the evening there was a brilliant display of fire-works. Their novelty here, and the unwonted pains taken on the part of the gentlemen superintending them afforded a high gratification to the spectators. The same persons who gave us this exhibition in the evening, performed during the day on the clarionett, Kent bugle and bassoon, in a style that we have seldom heard equalled. After the exhibition of fire-works had closed, the young gentlemen and ladies repaired to Cleaves' hall, and wound up the festivities of the day with a splendid ball.



PLAN  
OF  
**SACO.**  
1825.



## EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.

1. Spring's Double Saw Mill.
2. " Single " "
3. Dennett Double " "
4. Sawyer's Single " "
5. Bradbury's Single " "
6. Bog Double " "
7. New Bog Single " "
8. Up & Down Double " "
9. Gooch Double " "
10. Spring's Single " "
11. Cole Double " "
12. Low's Double " "
13. Pepperrell Double " "
14. Cutts' Single " "
15. Cutts' Treble " "
16. Cutts' Double " "
17. White's Double " "
- 18, 19, 20, Grist Mills.



## APPENDICES.

## APPENDIX A.

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### ORIGIN OF NAME SACO.<sup>i</sup>

The Indian original of the word *Saco* is somewhat uncertain. Fr. Vetromile in his History of the Abnakis has the following note: "Its (Saco's) original name was *Almuchicoit*, corrupted in *Chacoit*, and afterwards in *Saco*. It means *the land of the little dog*. The river took its name from the Sagamore of the tribe of that name, who was also called *Almuchicois*, or *Almushiquois*, residing on the Saco river." Early English writers render the Indian word in several ways. *Shawakotuck*, *Sawocotuck*, *Swanckadocke*. Assuming *Sawocotuck* as the best imitation of the Indian word it may be derived from *Sawacatauke*, *sawa*, 'burnt,' *coo*, 'pine,' *auke*, 'place.' The second interpretation is certainly the more pleasing and is, perhaps, as authoritative as the first. The form *Swanekadock* which occurs in the patents given to Vines and Bonython probably arose from confusion of the proper form with *Sagadahock*. J. Win-gate Thornton has the following in his MSS. Notes: "Saweo means in Indian a big-pine. This from Fred. Kidder who rec'd it from a Passamaquoddy Indian while on a visit to their country in 1851."

### THE NAME MAINE.

Sullivan says—in his Hist. of Me. p. 307—that "the territory was called the *Province of Mayne* by way of a compliment to the Queen of Charles the First who owned as her private estate, a province then called the Province of Meyne." So Varney—Brf. Hist. Me. p. 41-2.—and others. This is the usual explanation. Palfrey—Hist. N. E. p. 525. vol. i.—says: "This eastern country had been commonly called the *Mayne* (main) land, in distinction from the numerous islands on its coast, (Smith Generall Historie, 19; Hazard, I. 385); and thus perhaps it was that Gorge's province obtained its name." This last derivation is sustained by other high authorities. The Indian name of Maine is *Mavoshen*.

## APPENDIX B.

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### DEPARTURE OF CHAMPLAIN—VOYAGE OF GEO. WAYMOUTH—EARLY ATTEMPTS TO SETTLE MAINE—JOHN SMITH ON THE MAINE COAST.

Champlain and De Monts arrived at Wood Island July 10, 1605. Sufficient data for maps and description having been secured, the French explorers continued their voyage to the south, leaving the *Chouacoet* on a Sunday. July 25th, their provisions being nearly exhausted, they set out on their return to St. Croix. On their way they touched at the Saco and held an interview with the sagamore of Casco Bay, named Marchim, "who had the reputation of being one of the bravest men of his country, and he had a fine manner, and all his gestures and movements were grave and dignified, savage though he was."

From Saco, Champlain and De Monts proceeded to the Kennebec, which they reached July 29th. Here they had another interview with a native, this time the chief Annassou.

"He told us there was a vessel six leagues from the harbor, which had been engaged in fishing, and the people on board had killed five savages of this river, under the pretense of friendship, and according to his description we judge them to be English."

This report was true with one exception,—the English captain had kidnapped the Indians, not killed them. The circumstance is important to the history of Saco and Biddeford for it led, indirectly to the settlement of these towns.

The captain's name was George Waymouth. He had set sail from Dartmouth, England, on Easter Sunday, May 15, with the intention of visiting regions south of Cape Cod; but the winds proving contrary, he found himself, on Whitsunday, in Booth's Bay. Having ascended the Kennebec for sixty miles, in a shallop "brought in pieces out of England," and planted the cross on one of its upper reaches, in token that the Christian religion was there established, the doughty captain enticed on board his vessel five men of the local

tribe of Indians and made all sail for Monhegan, whence he soon took his departure for England. Upon the arrival home of the expedition, three of the Indians were taken into the family of Sir Ferdinand Gorges, and there taught to speak the English language.

Gorges had already become much interested in the project of making settlements in the New World, but had, thus far, taken no active steps in the enterprise. The information which he was able by degrees to elicit from the Indians served to arouse his enthusiasm, and on April 10, 1606, less than a year after Waymouth's voyage, aided by Sir John Popham and seconded by "sundry knights, gentlemen, and other adventurers," he obtained from the King an incorporation of two companies, the London Company and the Plymouth Company. The Plymouth Company, with which alone the present sketch is concerned, held the right to plant and govern colonies in North America, between the 38th and 45th parallels of latitude.\*

Comparatively little is known of Gorges up to the time of his connection with the scheme of colonization which has rendered his name so famous in American history; and of the few recorded acts of his early life not all are to his credit. He was associated with Essex, in the conspiracy against Queen Elizabeth, but, eventually, betrayed the Earl and testified against him at the trial. During the war with Spain, Gorges served in the royal navy. When peace was declared the King appointed him Governor of Plymouth. It was while he was living at Plymouth, that the Indians, captured by Waymouth, attracted his attention.

An attempt was soon made to colonize North Virginia, as New England was then called. Two ships and one hundred men, under command of Capt. George Popham as president and Raleigh Gilbert as admiral sailed from Plymouth, May 31, 1607, (the year in which Jamestown, Va. was settled) and arrived at Monhegan, August 11th. They shortly afterward continued to the Kennebec and there, on a small island at the mouth of the river, was planted the first colony in Maine. Extensive measures were taken for the comfort and success of the enterprise. The colonists had their President, Admiral, Master of Ordnance, Sergeant-Major, Marshall, Secretary, Chaplain and Chief Searcher, all of whom, with the Captain of the newly erected fort—St. George—constituted the Council!

\*The London Company held from the 34th to the 41st parallel. A considerable portion of the territory thus allotted being held in common by the two companies it was agreed that no colony should be planted within one hundred miles of any already established by the other company.

But no precaution had been taken against the climate which the glowing accounts of unscrupulous mariners had pictured as temperate. The colony arrived late in the season and was scarcely settled when winter came on. President Popham died and Raleigh Gilbert was called to England by the death of his brother. The cold was intense and, at last, sick and discouraged, the colony broke up and its members returned to England.

The failure of this venture dampened the ardor of the Plymouth Company and there was a general desire to give up the pursuit of the design for which the company had been organized. Sir Fernando Gorges and one or two more, unlike the majority, continued zealous in the cause.

In 1614, Captain John Smith, of Pocahontas fame, was put in charge of an expedition "to take whales." There were many whales and much time was spent "in chasing them," but the hero of Virginia was better at story-telling than at harpooning and he soon took steps to provide himself with new material for tales of adventure. Leaving his ships and most of his men, Smith, with eight companions, ranged the coast in an open boat, from the Penobscot to Cape Cod. In 1615, after he had returned to England, he made a map, upon which, by request of the King, he gave English names to the principal localities. Cape Ann, and Cape Porpoise still retain the names bestowed by Captain Smith.\* The last is said to have received its designation from the fact, that Smith fell in with a school of porpoises, off that group of islands.

\*Smith named the SACO river the IPSWICH. The English title was never used.

transactions with Gibbins and John Bonython. Whether or not the Andover colonists came to Saco is uncertain, but in 1683 Blackman purchased the whole of Gibbins' second division, in the allotment above given, together with a portion of John Bonython's first division and the timber right on 4,000 acres lying northeast of the land already mentioned, i. e., on John Bonython's second division. Three years later, Blackman sold two-thirds of this large tract,—one-third to Samuel Sheafe of Boston, and the other to Samuel Walker also of Boston. Sheafe soon sold out to Walker.

2. "Pepperell took a breadth of 80 rods, comprehending the part of the present village east of Main street, to the lower fence of the burying ground; Scamman 40 rods next below, and Weare 40 rods to the brook near Pipe Stave, now Gray's point." (Folsom.)

3. "First, Pepperell began at Nichol's brook, ran 44 rods; next Scamman 22 rods, and Weare 22 rods; which brought them to Gray's point, the lower side of the lot divided the year before. They now extended the north east bounds of that lot to the middle line of the patent; then beginning at its upper side, (on Main street) they set off, following the river, to Weare 40 rods, Scamman 40, Pepperell 80; (extending back two miles:) again, Pepperell 120, Scamman 60, Weare 60; Pepperell 120, Scamman 60, Weare 60; Pepperell 120, Scamman 60, Weare 60; Pepperell 127, Scamman  $67\frac{1}{2}$ , Weare  $67\frac{1}{2}$ , which completed the tract. A large rock in the river, above Little Falls, marks the extent of the division, as now understood. \* \* \* The privilege of cutting timber on the land northwest of the purchase, being J. Bonython's second division, was also divided by the proprietors. Pepperell took the upper half of the tract, Weare the next quarter and Scamman the lower quarter." (Folsom.)

## APPENDIX D.

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### TOPOGRAPHY OF SACO BAY—SACO FERRY—PINE POINT —PROUT'S NECK.

[Adapted from Locke's *SHORES OF SACO BAY* and *PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES OF OLD ORCHARD*.]

Saco Bay is on the coast of Maine, in latitude 43 degrees, longitude 70 degrees. It is one hundred miles east from Boston, and fifteen miles west from Portland, and is formed by Prout's Neck on the north, and Fletcher's Neck on the south. Its width from Fletcher's to Prout's Neck is five miles. On Fletcher's Neck is the village called Biddeford Pool. The Bay extends into the land about three miles, and its shores are nearly semicircular. At the north, just south of Prout's Neck, the Dunstan River, and at the south just north of Fletcher's Neck the Saco River and Goose Fare Brook, about an equal distance between, all empty into this Bay. The towns of Biddeford, Saco, and Scarborough, are on its shores, and from the Dunstan to the Saco River, a distance of six miles, there is a continuous, solid, sand beach. The northern portion of the beach is in the town of Scarborough, and is called Pine Point. The central portion is called Old Orchard Beach, and from Goose Fare Brook to Saco River is called Ferry Beach, or Bay View; but the whole shore between the Saco and the Dunstan River is known by the general term of Old Orchard.

There are several islands in the Bay. One mile and a half south by west of Prout's Neck is Stratton's Island. It is low, bare of trees, about half a mile long, and has a group of houses on the south-western end. A quarter of a mile north-west of Stratton's is Bluff Island, about one hundred and fifty yards long, which has a cluster of trees in nearly the middle. The rest of the islands in the Bay are near Fletcher's Neck. The largest is Wood Island; it lies off the entrance of Saco River, and forms a natural breakwater for the protection of Winter Harbor. It is four and a half miles from Prout's Neck. It is about eight hundred yards long, and nearly covered

with trees. On the eastern extremity is Wood Island Light House, which consists of a tower connected with the keeper's dwelling. The tower is forty-seven feet high and shows a revolving red light (flashing every minute). The light stands sixty-two feet above the ocean level, and is visible for thirteen miles. A fog-bell, struck by machinery, is placed near the light-house, and is sounded two blows in rapid succession, then a pause of twenty seconds, followed by a single blow, and so on alternately during thick and foggy weather.

Negro Island is about two hundred and fifty yards west of Wood Island, and at low tide is connected with it by a ledge on Rocky Bar.

Stage Island is eight hundred yards west of Negro Island. It is four hundred yards long and entirely bare of trees. It lies E.N.E. and W.S.W., and on the north-eastern end is a monument built of graystone, forty feet high and surmounted by a circular cap. This is called Stage Island Monument, and is the day guide to Winter Harbor. At low tide Stage Island is connected with the mainland of Biddeford from Parker's Neck by a pebbly bar. One quarter mile west of Stage Island is Basket Island, about one hundred and fifty yards in diameter. Two-thirds of a mile from the middle of Stage is Ram Island. It is oval in shape and entirely destitute of trees. It lies east and west, is about one hundred and fifty yards long, and is surrounded by shoals. Three-quarters of a mile north of Ram Island is Eagle Island. It is about one hundred and fifty yards in diameter, and is one mile east from Ferry Beach. It is also destitute of trees, but is covered with green foliage.

At the mouth of Saco River, extending from the northern shore, is a granite pier or breakwater, extending in a south by east direction. The entrance to the river is between this breakwater and Stage Island Monument.

#### SACO FERRY.

Saco Ferry was once of considerable importance being the winter port of the town and headquarters for many fishermen. There was also, previous to 1812, a large West Indian trade carried on there. The now dilapidated storehouse standing on the grass-grown wharf is a remnant of the bygone busy days.

In 1800, Captain Asa Stevens, who had acquired a fortune in West India trade, erected a large three-storied mansion at this place. After the war of 1812, it was converted into a tavern called the *Ferry House*. This passed under the management of various proprietors, until burned in 1876. It was the last of the old-time taverns in the vicinity.

## EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.



with trees. On the eastern extreme which consists of a terrace



## EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.

1. House of William Chase. 2. Store. 3. Chase's Wharf. 4. Land of Amos Chase. 5. Town Road leading from Saco Falls to Stevens' Wharf. 6. House of W. Waterhouse. 7. Blacksmith Shop. 8. Dock. 9. House and Outbuildings built by Capt. Asa Stevens. 10. Garden. 11. Front Yard. 12. Low Ground. 13. Grave-yard. 14. Wharf. 15. 5 Stores. 16. Wharf. 17. Orchard. 18. Salt Marsh. 19. House and Land of John Edgecomb. 20. House and Land of Holt Ridlon.

A. Saco River at Low Water.

B. Large Creek.

## PINE POINT.

This portion of the beach from Scarboro', on the Dunstan River, to the town of Saco, in the earliest days of the colonies, was known as Blue Point, and the high land west of it was called Blue Point Hill. On this hill, which is about a mile and a half from the shore, was, during the war of 1812, a signal station, at which a sentinel was kept to watch the appearance of any vessel that came along the shore, and to report the approach of the enemy to the signal station at Portland, in the Munjoy Tower. This Blue Hill signal station was in charge of James Leavitt. On this hill, in the time of the Indian wars, stood a garrison. The present name, Pine Point, is not, as many suppose, from the pine-trees on its shores, but from Charles Pine, a famous hunter and Indian killer, who dwelt here. There was also another distinguished hunter here,—William Newbury,—from whom Newbury's Point, received its name. Here was also the home of Richard Hunniwell the "Indian Killer." The character and adventures of these men have been depicted so graphically in Southgate's History of Scarborough, that it will be interesting to quote them here:

"At the time of the second settlement, an unfinished house, which had remained since the desertion of 1690, stood on Winnock's (Plummer's) Neck. This became a sort of rendezvous for the Indians, where they would occasionally meet and amuse themselves with howling and dancing. One spring, soon after the return of the inhabitants, Mr. Pine discovered that the savages were holding in this shell a series of nightly 'powwows,' and at once he determined to improve the occasion for a trial of his skill as a marksman. It was his rule to hunt Indians without any companions but two guns, which he was wont to discharge one immediately after the other, when he fired from a covert. Taking his two guns he went out alone

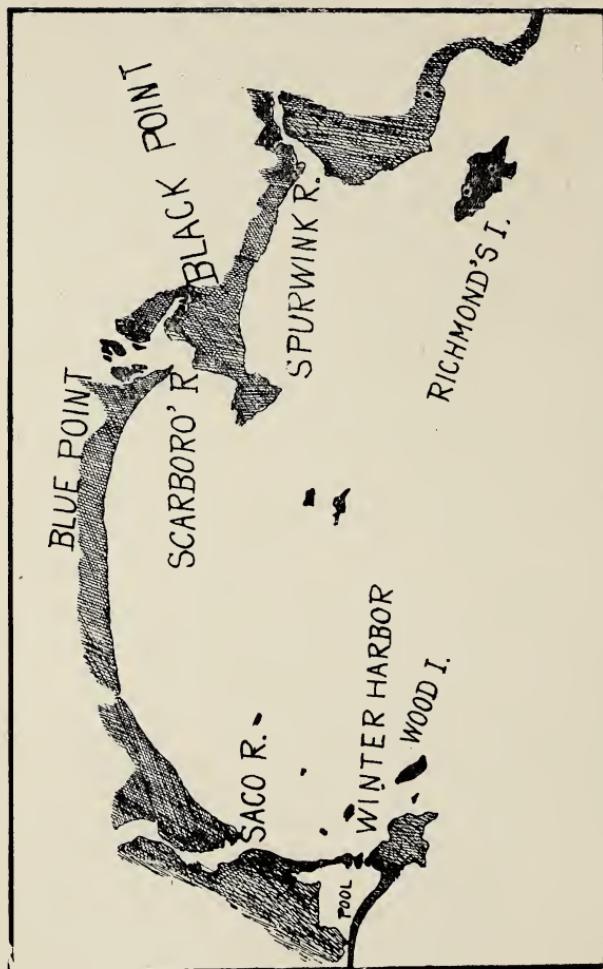
from the garrison early one afternoon, paddled his boat up the Non-such till he came near the house, and then having hid it near the bank of the river, went into the deserted dwelling, got up amongst the beams, and silently awaited the result of his adventure. Soon after dark he heard the expected Indian whistle in the wood around him, and peeping out he saw nearly a score of savages coming towards the place of his concealment, which was at least three miles from the garrison, where was the nearest aid in case the Indians should attack him. Pine, however, was not easily frightened, and probably did not expect any more unfavorable result than that which happened. As the two foremost Indians were entering the doorway he fired and killed them both, but before he could get ready his other gun for a second discharge the remaining savages were beyond danger from it. They did not even stop to see if their companions were killed. In an hour's time Pine was safe in the garrison examining the guns and ammunition of his victims. Such an occurrence was hardly out of the course of his ordinary life.

"Hunniwell, the 'Indian Killer,' was a more ferocious and irreconcilable foe to the savages. Pine's most cruel acts against them were always of a sportsmanlike character—he was fond of the adventure; but Hunniwell's hatred of them was such that he would kill them whenever and wherever he met them, regardless of all public treaties of peace. This is, without doubt, to be attributed to his unsatisfied desire of revenge for the death of a wife and child, whom the Indians are said to have murdered. Tradition furnishes the following instance of vengeance which he is said to have taken on his foes during a time of peace. A number of the Blue Point planters were warming themselves by the fire in a clam-house, on what is now called 'Seavey's Landing.' when two Indians came in, and setting their guns in the corner, took places by the fire with the planters. Hunniwell entered soon after, in his usual manner; but finding these Indians present, he became remarkably uneasy, and began to pace the floor in a restless manner. The blood of his murdered wife and babe was before his eye. Presently he went to the corner where the guns stood, and taking up one, put it to his shoulder and moved it from side to side as if taking aim at birds on the wing; he then took it from his shoulder, examined the pan, and finding the gun unloaded, put it down and took up the other, with which he sighted as before, until, getting the heads of the Indians in range, he fired and killed them both. On another occasion he killed five Indians at once on the shore of Great Pond, with his famous 'Buccaneer gun.'"

## PROUT'S NECK, OR BLACK POINT.

The first white settler in this vicinity, of whom history gives any record, was John Stratton. He dwelt on the island bearing that name as early as 1631. There were, doubtless, other settlers with him, but of their history but little is known. In 1631, Thomas Cammock received from the council of Plymouth fifteen hundred acres of land, now lying in the town of Scarboro', and settled on the Neck. As this was a most desirable place for fishing or farming, other settlers soon joined him, and in a few years it became quite a settlement. The Neck was originally covered with dark evergreen forests, and hence mariners coming in from the ocean naturally called it Black Point. The present name is from Timothy Prout, who settled here in 1728, and died in 1768. The early settlers of Prout's Neck, in common with the other settlements in the province, suffered extremely during the Indian war. Previous to these wars the place was growing and prosperous, and looked forward to becoming the metropolis of Maine. A large garrison stood on the Neck over an old cellar, near what is now called Garrison Cove. The situation of this rendered it one of the most impregnable in the province of Maine.

In 1678, a short time before the first treaty, a party of about one hundred Indians made a sudden attack on this unprepared and unsuspecting settlement. Mogg, a distinguished chieftain, was the leader of this engagement. He had been on familiar and friendly terms with Captain Henry Jocelyn, who was in command here. Mogg proposed an interview with Jocelyn outside the fort. Jocelyn met him, and their conversation lasted a long time. The Indians proposed that the garrison be surrendered to them without a contest but Jocelyn would not consent to it without asking the advice of those within, and returned for that purpose. To his astonishment he found that all the inmates, except his own family, had fled by boat. They had become alarmed at his continued absence, and had left him to use his own judgment in regard to surrendering his garrison. He, being quite an old man at the time, did not deem it prudent to resist a so much greater force, and surrendered the garrison, himself and family becoming captives. It is reported that they were treated with kindness, and returned in a few months. This was a great achievement for the Indians, but exceedingly discouraging for the settlers, who scattered from here into other settlements, and remained till the next year, when they returned and again settled on their desolated plantations; and the garrison was placed



under the command of Lieutenant Tippen, who came with a company of soldiers to the defence of the place. Having once been successful in capturing this place, the Indians were encouraged to attack it again, and the siege lasted three days, when Lieutenant Tippen succeeded in shooting the celebrated warrior Mogg. This caused the English great rejoicing, for Mogg was a dreaded foe to all white settlers. At the fall of their leader the savages abandoned the attack and left in their canoes.

## APPENDIX E.

### A WAR TIME ENTERPRISE.

It has thus far proved impossible to connect the episode recorded by the following document with any subsequent events. Whether the scheme proposed was carried out or not is, therefore, uncertain. The fragment is printed here chiefly for the sake of the names it displays:

SACO, July 15, 1812.

We the undersigned having in contemplation to purchase a vessell lying at the wharf of about 43 Tons and fitting her for a privateer and the expense, vessel and eqipage for a months cruise being estimated at about \$2,000.00 agree to meet tonight at John Cleaves Tavern and consult & deliberate & decide upon the whole matter.

JOHN PIKE.

GEORGE SCAMMAN.

RICH. TOUNG.

ICH<sup>D</sup>. FAIRFIELD.

DOMINICUS CUTTS.

JAMES MURCH.

SAML. MOODY.

JAMES B. THORNTON.

REUB. H. GREEN.

JOSEPH M. HAYES.

JOSEPH LELAND.

JERE. BRADBURY.

JOHN ALLEN.

ISAAC F. SNOW.

STEPHEN SAWYER.

GEO. SCAMMAN }  
JOHN PIKE      } Committee to ascertain what the Vessel may be  
R. H. GREEN.    } purchased—to examine & see if she be suitable  
for the purpose—to engage conditionally a Captain to command said  
vessel provided she be fitted out and to take said Capt with them  
in examining the vessel—and to report tomorrow at ten o'Clock.

JOSEPH LELAND ESQR. }  
CAPT. J. B. THORNTON    } A Committee to digest & report a plan  
J. BRADBURY        } to proceed upon — —

## APPENDIX F.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Some of the books employed in the preparation of this sketch are cited in its pages; but many more have been consulted from which no direct quotation has been made. The whole subject of authorities on local history, so far as investigated by the writer, is accordingly presented here, for the benefit of those who may wish to examine the sources from which the present account is drawn.

First of all should be mentioned such general authorities as Bancroft's *History of the United States from the Discovery of America*, and the *Narrative and Critical History of America*, edited by Justin Winsor. Bancroft's history is full in its account of colonial times, but is no longer regarded as final; Winsor's eight volumes do not present a consecutive history, but, on the periods covered, embody the best work of modern scholarship and are of use to the student of local annals in more ways than one.

Among the histories of New England, Palfrey's *History of New England* stands first in point of completeness and scholarly treatment. The author is a great friend to the Puritans and his excuses for their misdoings are not always satisfactory to a Saco reader, but in general, the views expressed are acceptable. The *History of New England, 1630-1649*, by John Winthrop tells the story of the earliest days of Puritan settlement in contemporaneous language. There are occasional references to the regions bordering on Saco bay. The *Description of New England* (1622), by John Smith, must be reckoned among the earliest books telling of Saco Bay. Much information of a general character may be obtained from Thomas Morton's quaint *New English Canaan*, and William Wood's *New England's Prospect*, (1634.) *A Voyage into New England*, (1628,) by Christopher Levett, is a very rare book which has been reprinted in *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. II. 80 et seq.* The narrative is entertaining. (see p. 6).

One of the most frequently quoted books is the *Account of Two Voyages to New England*, (1674), by John Jocelyn. Jocelyn spent

some time at Black Point (Prout's Neck), and noted carefully all that he saw and heard. His book is well-nigh invaluable to the student of York County history. Cotton Mather's *Magnalia Christi Americana*, (1702), is uncritical but valuable. The authority on Indian Wars is the account by William Hubbard. The second volume of a reprint of this work entitled, *The History of the Indian Wars in New England from the First Settlement to the Termination of the War with King Philip, in 1677*, contains a full account of the destruction of Saco. In this connection should be noticed the *Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, 1692-1780*, which are of some use. Coming now to later times, Richard Frothingham's *Rise of the Republic* gives full particulars of the system of committees of correspondence.

The best history of Maine, all things considered, is the *History of the State of Maine* by William D. Williamson. Although published in 1832, it still stands as good authority. Its statements are made with legal precision and it is, altogether, a pleasant book to read. *The History of the District of Maine*, (1795), by James Sullivan is inaccurate and a dangerous work for use by a novice. The second edition of Varney's *Brief History of Maine* is interesting, though it may be questioned whether too much space has not been allotted to Indian troubles. *Maine Wills, 1640-1760*, compiled by William M. Sargent, furnishes much valuable material. *A Statistical View of the District of Maine*, (1816), by Moses Greenleaf, gives the distance from Boston to the Saco meeting house, as 102.76 miles, but is otherwise of slight importance. The account of Saco in the volume on *Maine*, in *History and Description of New England*, (1860), by A. J. Coolidge and J. B. Mansfield, is brief and inaccurate. The *Biographical Encyclopedia of Maine of the Nineteenth Century*, (1885), contains some sketches of interest to the student. *Travels through the Northern Parts of the United States, in the years 1807 and 1808*, by Edward Augustus Kendall, deserves recognition. Volume III, Chap. LXIV, has a sketch of Saco's history together with a brief account of the town as it then appeared. The church history of Maine is detailed in *Sketches of the Ecclesiastical History of the State of Maine*, (1821), by Jonathan Greenleaf, pastor of a church in Wells; in Allen and Pilsbury's *Methodism in Maine; History of the Baptists in Maine*, (1845), by Rev. Joshua Millet; *Early History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Maine*, in *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. VI.*, by Rev. Edward Ballard, etc., etc. On particular periods and occurrences there are, also, *The Northmen in Maine*, by De Costa; *Champlain's Voyages, 1604, 5 and 6, in the Gulf of Maine*, by General

John M. Brown, who agrees with Folsom and others in identifying the *Chouacæt* of Champlain with the Saco, but makes *L'isle de Bacchus, Richmond's Island* instead of *Wood Island*; the *Briefe Narration of the Originall Undertakings of the Advancement of Plantations into the Parts of America*, (1658), written by Sir Ferdinando Gorges, of great interest and value, to be found in *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. II. I, et seq.* In addition to Hubbard's account of the Indian wars, already referred to, the following papers are of considerable interest: *Garrison Houses; York County*, by the late Hon. E. E. Bourne of Kennebunk, to be found in *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. VII, 107 et seq.*; *Papers Relating to Indian Troubles in Maine, 1702-1704*, *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. III, 341 et seq.*; *Indian Treaties* in the same volume, 359 *et seq.*; *Treaty with the Eastern Indians at Falmouth, 1749*, *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. IV., 145 et seq.*

Rev. J. T. Champlin has an account of *Educational Institutions in Maine while a District of Massachusetts* in *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. VIII, 155 et seq.* With reference to the separation of Maine, the *Collections of the Pejepscot Hist. Soc. I, Part I*, may be consulted for the paper on *Early Movements to Separate the District of Maine from Massachusetts & the Brunswick Convention of 1816*, by Prof. Henry L. Chapman. The doings of the final convention are given in full in *Journal of the Constitutional Convention of the District of Maine, 1819-20*, published in 1856. Of a different and more entertaining character are *Extracts from the Journal kept by the Rev. Thomas Smith, late pastor of the First Church of Christ in Falmouth, with an appendix containing a Variety of other Matters, selected by Samuel Freeman*, 1821; and the delightful book, *A Girl's Life Eighty Years Ago*, (selections from letters of Eliza Southgate), 1887.

The history of York County has never yet been properly written. W. W. Clayton's *History of York County*, (1880), though of considerable value, is by no means a scholarly or exhaustive work. In lieu of more attractive literature, the student will find the six volumes of *York Deeds, 1642-1703*, packed with information. There also the *Extracts from Records in the County of York*, in the first volume of *Me. Hist. Soc. Col. 363 et seq.*

The history of almost any neighboring town will be found helpful in investigating the history of Saco. *The History of Wells and Kennebunk*, 1875, by Edw. E. Bourne, LL. D., Bradbury's *History of Kennebunk Port*, and the *History of Portland*, 1865, by William Willis, are all excellent books and invaluable to one who wishes to gain a comprehensive view of early local history. The *Report of the Buxton*

*Centennial*, 1874, and the volume entitled *Narragansett No. 1*, tell the story of Buxton.

The distinctively local material for a history of Saco is comparatively large in amount and of the best quality. First and foremost among printed authorities stands Folsom's *History of Saco and Biddeford*, 1830, which has held its own for more than half a century as one of the best local histories ever written. A huge amount of painstaking labor is represented by this book. After the lapse of so many years scarcely a statement can be impeached. The work is justly valued and will continue to be held in esteem for years to come.

At various times in the past few years, popular accounts have been written of the summer resorts in the vicinity of Saco. Such are *Pen and Pencil Sketches of Old Orchard*, 1879, and *Historical Sketches of Old Orchard and Shores of Saco Bay*, 1884, both by John S. Locke, and *Gleanings from the Sea*, 1887, by Joseph W. Smith. While not professedly historical treatises, these entertaining books contain many useful and curious facts. Other printed sources of information are, an address by E. T. Dwight on the *One Hundredth Anniversary of the First Church, Saco*, 1862, *Manual of First Congregational Church, Saco*, 1886, (inaccurate), and the newspapers, notably the *Freeman's Friend*, *Portsmouth Oracle*, *American Patriot* (Portland), *Maine Palladium*, and *Maine Democrat*. The *Town Report of Saco for 1866* contains the act of incorporation of Pepperrellborough, in full, together with a list of town officers from 1762-1866.

The manuscript sources of local history are numerous. First come the *Town Records*. The entries previous to 1762 are to be found in the city clerk's office in Biddeford. The records from 1762 on, are in Saco. Subsidiary to the town records are the *Records of the First Church in Pepperrellborough*. By way of private papers there are the *W. S. Dennett Notes and Plans*, many rare and valuable; the *Joseph Moody MSS.*, among which is President Monroe's letter to the inhabitants of Saco; the *Josiah Calef Papers*, including business documents and plans; the *Cutts MSS.* preserved by Benj. N. Goodale. The *Sermons of John Fairfield* are many of them worth perusal. The *Collection of Documents in the York Institute* includes several papers of importance. The most complete notes on Saco history are the *Wingate Thornton Notes*, which are invaluable. While there are frequent inadvertencies in dates, and some misstatements, these notes present a mass of details with respect to every period of local history that could not be duplicated at any cost.

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